# LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I – Questions and Answers)

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SEVENTH SESSION

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

## LOK SABHA

*Friday, 27th August, 1954*

*The Lok Sabha met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Mr. Speaker:** Questions. Dr. Lanka Sundaram.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** May I request you, Sir, to take up Question No. 227 also along with Question No. 186 because they are related to each other?

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Hon. Minister of Communications got any objection?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** It is all right.

INDO-U.S. AIR AGREEMENT

*186. **Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to terminate the India-U.S.A. air transport agreement; and

(b) whether Government would place before the House all information about the tourist traffic from the U.S.A. and other countries since this agreement was signed?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) On the 14th January 1954, the Government of India gave the U.S. Government notice of termination of the India-U.S. Air Transport Agreement.

(b) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.



INDIAN AIRLINES CORPORATIONS

*227. **Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government would inform the House about the actual trading results of the Indian Airlines Corporations, both internal and external?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** As required under Section 15 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953, the annual statements of accounts of the two air corporations, as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, will be laid before the House. Such statements of accounts for the period ending the 31st March, 1954 are not yet ready.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** With reference to question number 186 may I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement recently made by Mr. Carl Hinshaw, Member of the House of Representatives, United States of America, in which he said that the decision of the Government of India to cancel the Air Transport Agreement—I am quoting from the statement—"was an arbitrary decision of a very dangerous kind", and whether the Government agree with that interpretation?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** My attention has not yet been drawn to that statement but I may say that the action that we have taken in giving notice to the Government of United States is covered by one of the clauses of the Agreement itself.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** May I know whether it is a fact that recently as many as ten flights a week carrying tourists are directed to this country from United States of America and

other countries, and whether as a result of these flights our external air serivces are put into difficulties as regards finding, what shall we say, passengers?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That is exactly the reason, Sir, why we took up the question with the Government of United States. Negotiations went on and when we could not come to any agreement we were forced to give notice for the termination of the existing agreement.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Can the hon. Minister give an assessment of the probable losses in earnings as a result of these flights from foreign airlines bringing tourists to this country and carrying passengers from this country abroad?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is very difficult to assess the losses but the fact that a very large number of frequencies and a very large number of available seats which are much in excess of third and fourth freedom traffic are being carried by foreign airlines in this country was the reason why we took up the question with the Government of United States.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** With reference to question number 227, may I know whether it is a fact that up to the moment since nationalisation, as much as Rs. 1,50,00,000 have been lost in running both internal and external air services? If this is a fact, may I know whether the hon. Minister, when he places the statement on the Table as promised, would give the break up of both internal and external air services', trading results?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I cannot give the exact figures of losses at present, but I may tell the House that there has been some profit in the International Corporation and loss in the Internal Corporation. The accounts will be submitted separately for the Indian Airlines Corporation and the Air India International.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** In view of the admitted losses every month—figures may be given to us later—may I know the steps contemplated by Government to ensure that both internal and external air services would be run on a commercial basis?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Both the Corporations are being run on commercial basis. There are some obvious reasons for loss in the case of the Indian Airlines Corporation. As yet we are carrying on the employees of the then existing companies on the same terms and conditions of service as existed in those companies prior to nationalisation. We have started the process of integration and when the services are fully integrated there will be obvious saving of overhead charges. The then existing air companies were getting subsidy from the Government and now that subsidy is not available to the Corporation.

TICKETLESS TRAVEL

*187. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special drives carried out to prevent ticketless travel on the Northern Railway in 1953;

(b) the amount realised in this connection; and

(c) the number of persons sent to jail?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) 4,874.

(b) Rs. 6,86,145/-.

(c) 8,263.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know how the number of ticketless travellers in 1953 compares with the number in 1952? Is it on the increase or on the decrease?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** There is a very slight increase in 1953.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether this increase is due to some special causes or due to natural causes?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by 'natural causes'.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** What I mean is...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. His point seems to be as to whether there was more effective drive in 1953 as a result of which there was increase in the detection of ticketless travellers?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** The fact that there has been an increase in the number of ticketless travellers detected means that there has been a better drive.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know the range of punishment for those persons who are detected travelling without ticket?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** It is difficult to say anything specifically because the punishments vary in every individual case.

**Diwan Raghavendra Rao:** May I know whether the Government have taken into consideration the experience gained by Shri Vasisht who has just returned from a tour of the U.S.S.R. and reported that keeping attendance in each and every compartment is an efficacious measure of preventing ticketless travel?

**Shri L. B. Shastri:** He has returned only on the 20th and has not submitted his report so far.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know to what extent there is collusion of the railway employees in this ticketless travelling?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We have not yet ascertained that fact.

GRANTS FROM THE CENTRAL ROAD FUND

*188. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the total amount of money so far given as grants to various States from the Central Road Fund during the year 1954-55?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** The total amount of money so far given as grants to various States from the Central Road Fund during the current financial year is Rs. 129·52 lakhs. This is made up of

Allotments made out of the State Governments' allocations Rs. 48.27 lakhs.

Grants sanctioned from the Central Road Fund (Ordinary) Reserve Rs.36·25 lakhs.

Grants sanctioned from the Central Road Fund (Special) Reserve Rs. 45·00 lakhs.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the basis on which these grants are given to the different States and whether the traffic pressure on a particular road is also taken into account by the Government of India while advancing these loans or grants?

**Shri Alagesan:** The allocations are made to the various States on the basis of petrol consumption.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know if it is a fact that Government propose to levy a surcharge on petrol to augment the Central Road Fund?

**Shri Alagesan:** No, Sir. We are already levying a duty of two and half annas per gallon. Of this 20 per cent. is set apart for Central Road Fund (Ordinary) Reserve; the rest, namely, 80 per cent. is distributed among the various States. They are not distributed but they are kept in their accounts in the Central Road Fund as per the consumption of petrol.

केन्द्रीय ट्रैक्टर संगठन

*१८९. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय ट्रैक्टर संगठन के फार्मों की तुलना में निजी फार्मों में कितनी कृषि योग्य भूमि पर खेती प्रारम्भ की गई;

(ख) निजी रूप से ट्रैक्टरों द्वारा भूमि को खेती योग्य बनाने पर और केन्द्रीय ट्रैक्टर संगठन द्वारा भूमि को कृषि

योग्य बनाने पर प्रति एकड़ खर्च में क्या अन्तर है;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस बात की जांच करेगी कि जो भूमि ट्रैक्टरों से कृषि योग्य बनाई गई थी उस पर फिर से कांस उग आया है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 44.]

**श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि गो मारे फूड कम्पेन के अन्दर जो पाशाभाई इम्प्लिमेन्ट्स बनाये गये थे क्या वह सी० टी० ओ० को ट्रान्सफर कर दिये गए हैं ? यदि हां, तो २० करोड़ किसानों पर उसका कितना खर्च पड़ गया है ?

**डा० पी० एस० देशमुख :** वह सब के सब पाशाभाई इम्प्लिमेन्ट्स डिस्पोजल्स के सुपुर्द कर दिये गये हैं ।

**श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह बात सच है कि सी० टी० ओ० के बहुत से वर्कशाप्स जो दिल्ली और भोपाल आदि में हैं वह साल में कई महीने बेकार रहते हैं ? और क्या सरकार बतायेगी कि उस का किसानों पर क्या बोझा पड़ता है । और उन के साल भर खाली न रखने के लिये क्या किया गया है ?

**डा० पी० एस० देशमुख :** यह पूरी तौर से बेकार नहीं रहते हैं, काम कम ज्यादा रहता है । जब ज्यादा से ज्यादा काम होता है तो पूरा स्टाफ रखना होता है, जब काम कम रहता है उस वक्त स्टाफ भी कम ज्यादा किया जा सकता है ।

**श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सेंट्रल ट्रैक्टर आर्गनाइजेशन के रेटस में जो कमी आ गई वह किस कारण है और कौन सी सुविधायें किसानों को दी गई हैं जिन से कि कांस कम बढ़ी ?

**डा० पी० एस० देशमुख :** अगर कम कांस होना इस का कारण है तो यह हमारी एफिशिएन्सी है । साथ में जो हमारा पुराना तजुर्बा है उस से भी हम ने फायदा उठाया है । इस सबब से भी उन को कम देना पड़ेगा । हमारा अन्दाजा था कि शायद ९० रु० फी एकड़ बढ़ जायें, लेकिन अब अन्दाजा यह है कि पिछला जो रेट है उस से हम ५ रु० घटा सकेंगे ।

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Will Government please state the cost of reclamation per acre charged by the Tractor Organisation and that charged by the Government from private parties for such reclamation?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think there is any difference between what we charge and what it costs us. It is supposed to be on a 'no-profit-no-loss' basis.

### Strike by Indian Seamen

***190. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agitation started by the National Union of Seamen of India against the Government controlled Seamen's Employment Scheme in Bombay Harbour has been called off by the Union;

(b) the grievances of the Union which led to that agitation; and

(c) the assurances, if any, given by the Director-General of Shipping to the Union to redress their grievances?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The main grievance of the Union was that the Seamen's Employment Board set up under the scheme has advisory functions only and no executive authority.

(c) The Director General of Shipping has indicated that after some experience has been gained of the working of the Board, he would take up for examination, with a view to making suitable recommendations to Government, the suggestion made by the seafarers' representatives that the scope of the functions of the Seamen's Employment Board should be enlarged. He has also agreed that where within the framework of the Scheme there is unanimity among the representatives of shipowners and seafarers on any issue, the advice of the Board will ordinarily be given effect to.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the Government scheme has been extended to all the departments on ship, *viz.*, engine room, deck and saloon?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, it covers all.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the scheme has been extended to Calcutta and other ports also?

**Shri Alagesan:** It is our intention to set up an office very soon in Calcutta also.

C.T.O. SURPLUS STORES

*191. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the maintenance charges of the Central Tractor Organisation Surplus Stores during each of the last three years;

(b) the book value of such stores; and

(c) the procedure adopted for disposal of such stores, and the price fetched by disposal during each of the last three years?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No separate figures of maintenance charges for surplus stores alone are kept.

(b) The book value of the stores declared surplus to the requirements of Central Tractor Organisation during each of the last three years is as follows:—

| Year | Book value in lacs of rupees. |
|---|---|
| 1951-52 | 34·99 |
| 1952-53 | 12·92 |
| 1953-54 | 14·05 |
| | 61·96 |

(c) During 1951-52 and 1952-53 the Chairman, Central Tractor Organisation was declaring and disposing to the best advantage of the Government, all surplus stores upto a value of Rs. 5,000 in any individual case. In respect of stores whose book value was more than Rs. 5,000 disposal was made in consultation with the Government of India.

From 1953-54, all stores which have been declared surplus to the requirements of the Central Tractor Organisation are being reported to the D.G.S. & D. for disposal who after offering the same to priority indentors, dispose of either by public auction or by inviting tenders.

The Chairman, Central Tractor Organisation has been delegated from 15th May, 1954 enhanced powers to dispose of surplus stores lying in Delhi whose aggregate book value does not exceed Rs. 5,000/- and in case of certain old stores upto an aggregate book value of Rs.10,000/- in some outside stations away from Delhi. The powers of disposal upto Rs. 10,000 is effective for 4 months from 15th May, 1954.

The price fetched by disposal of surplus stores during each of the last three years is as follows:—

| Year | Sale value realised (In lacs of Rupees) |
|---|---|
| 1951-52 | 9·83 |
| 1952-53 | 17·32 |
| 1953-54 | 14·63 |
| TOTAL : | 41·78 |

**Shri Barman:** May I know whether the Pashabhai implements, which cost Government Rs. 21 lakhs, are still being experimented for other purposes or

whether they have been declared as surplus?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The Pashabhai implements cost the Government Rs. 42 lakhs and not Rs. 21 lakhs, and they have now been given to the Disposals, but it may be possible to rectify the defects and probably sell them and recover almost the whole amount.

**Shri Barman:** May I know whether the Pashabhai ploughs were declared unsatisfactory but still attempts are going on to utilise them for light ploughing and other purposes, which again, I understand, was once tried by an expert but not found to be useful?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No fresh investigation is going on, but whatever work was done previously, we still think, may prove useful in making use of these implements.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether it is a fact that the majority of the surplus stores have become outmoded and they are not useful for the C.T.O.?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That is the reason why they have been declared surplus to our requirements.

### Milk Production

*192. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to launch a scheme to increase the milk yield in the country; and

(b) the present annual milk production, and the target aimed at under the contemplated scheme?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). A statement showing the action taken or proposed to be taken to increase the milk yield in the country is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 45.]

It is not possible to compute the results of these efforts in terms of the quantity of additional milk.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know the annual cash value of the milk and milk products consumed in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I must ask for notice and I do not know whether we have got the figures at all.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Can we have the country's entire milch animals' number at this time?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I must ask for notice for this also.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि इस समय जो दूध इस देश में पर्याप्त परिमाण में नहीं मिल रहा है उस का कारण यह है कि अच्छी से अच्छी गायें बम्बई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास में मारी जाती हैं, और क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात भी मालूम है कि अभी उन्होंने जो कम्यूनिके निकाला है कि बम्बई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास को छोड़ कर गोवध कहीं नहीं होता, वह कम्यूनिके बिल्कुल गलत है और दूसरी जगहों पर गोवध बराबर होता जा रहा है ?

**Mr. Speaker:** This is hardly a question to be asked.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का कोई उत्तर नहीं है ?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is Challenging a Government *Communique* and he wants to enter into an argument about it.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** मेरे पहले प्रश्न का उत्तर तो दे दिया जाय कि मेरा कथन सत्य है या नहीं ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** नहीं यह सब गलत सुना है आप ने ।

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** The Statement shows that the Karnal Farm has got some heads of cattle brought from Pakistan of *Sahiwal* and *Sindhi* breeds. May I know the number of the *Sahiwal* breed kept there?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I must ask for notice for this also as it relates to distribution of the bulls in various categories.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दूध की मिकदार बढ़ाने के वास्ते क्या स्कीम हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० वंशमुख : यह सब स्टेटमेन्ट में दिया हुआ हैं ।

CHIRIMIRI COAL MINES WORKERS

*193. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published by the "Free Press Journal" of Bombay dated the 3rd June, 1954 to the effect that living conditions of workers of the Chirimiri Coal Mines were very bad and the accommodation provided for them was inadequate and other amenities were also insufficient; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to redress these grievances?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Yes.

(b) In order to encourage the building of houses by colliery owners, the Fund has offered a subsidy of 25 per cent. and a loan of 37½ per cent. of the cost of construction of houses according to approved plan. A grant-in-aid equal to eight pies per ton of coke or coal despatched is also being offered to those colliery owners who maintain dispensaries according to the standard prescribed by the Fund. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has provided one radio set at each of the five Chirimiri collieries. A grant of Rs. 200 p.m. is being paid to one of the High Schools in the area. Two Miners' Institutes are under construction in the Korea Coalfields and it is proposed to construct one more Institute, it is also proposed to construct a regional hospital.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whose responsibility it is to provide housing accommodation for the labour? Is it the responsibility of the Government or that of the owners?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** It is the responsibility of the owners, and the Government has also tried to help them and encouraged them to build houses.

**Shri P. C. Bose:** May I know whether the Government are aware that, in spite of the offer of 25 per cent. of the cost of the buildings, most of the collieries are not taking advantage of it? What steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Government are aware of the fact and it is a matter to be considered.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know, Sir, if the amount earmarked for housing in the Labour Welfare Organisation to the credit of this colliery has been fully utilised so far?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** No, not yet.

EFFECTS OF SOLAR ECLIPSE

*194. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about two years back many cases of total or partial blindness due to solar eclipse, were reported in the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh;

(b) if so, what further research and enquiry have been made in respect of the dangerous effect of eclipses on eyesight; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate the public on this subject?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes. 18 cases of partial or total blindness due to looking at the sun during a solar eclipse in 1952 were reported at the Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh.

(b) No investigation or research is considered necessary. The damage to the eye is due to a burn on retina, which is a sensitive part of the eye.

(c) Wide publicity regarding the harmful effect of looking with bare eyes at the eclipse was given by the

All India Radio and the press at the time of the recent solar eclipse in June, 1954.

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know, Sir, if any treatment was applied with success to restore eye-sight in such cases, and if so, what was their number and the percentage of success obtained?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I am afraid I have no information on that point.

**Shri Radha Raman:** Besides the Gandhi Eye Hospital at Aligarh, may I know in which hospitals in the country these cases can be effectively treated?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** There are opthalmologists attached to practically every hospital and all these cases can be treated by them.

**Shri S. N. Das:** The hon. Minister in reply to part (c) of the question said that wide publicity was given through radio and newspapers. May I know what was done for those people who do not listen to the radios and do not read the newspapers?

**An Hon. Member:** They are not expected to look at the sun.

IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE

*195. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a memorandum, demanding improvement and expansion of telephone service, has been submitted to Government by the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to remedy the defects pointed out therein?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Yes;

(b) Large scale expansion and rehabilitation of existing exchanges and opening of new exchanges and public call offices are included in the Five Year Plan and further expansion is proposed in the next Five Year Plan.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether Government have taken steps to remove all the defects mentioned in the memorandum, or only some of them?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** All the defects cannot be removed all at once; it will take time.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know how far these steps are going to be effective?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The memorandum covers a very wide field. I presume my hon. friend has taken the trouble to look into the memorandum. It refers to expansion of the telephone system, increase in effeciency and things like that. Naturally it will take time—six or seven years.

**Shri Heda:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that the target for the expansion of telephone facilities fixed by Government in the Plan is not likely to be achieved because we are falling short of equipment? If so, what steps Government are taking to get or acquire greater quantity of equipment?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is true, Sir, that we do not manufacture all the exchange equipments in our country. Steps have been taken to manufacture some in our Bangalore factory. Cables are being manufactured in the Cable Factory. We are also trying to expand the activities of the Bangalore Factory, so that we may, in course of time, be able to achieve self-sufficiency in exchange equipments.

AIR ACCIDENTS

*196. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comparative study of air accidents in respect of Civil Aviation in the important countries of the world has been made in recent times; and

(b) if so, how the figures of accidents in India compare with the figures in U.K., U.S.A. and such other countries?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) I lay on the Table of the Sabha a statement giving the requisite information in respect of accidents in India, U.S.A. and U.K. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 46.]

Information about other countries is not available.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** While drawing the attention of the hon. Minister to passenger fatalities in India and the United States of America, may I enquire if this highly unfavourable rate between the two countries is due to the inferior quality of aircraft in this country and to the operational inefficiency here?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** No, Sir. I may first point out to the hon. Member that figures for the United States of America and the United Kingdom for the year 1953 and 54 are not available. That makes a lot of difference in the percentage of accidents, because to our knowledge, a few Comets and Constellations with serious accidents and a large number of casualties fatalities were involved in them. That makes the difference in the percentage of accidents regarding India and the United Kingdom. As regards the efficiency of our staff, it is inferior to none in the world.

As regards the inferior type of aircraft, I may again point out, Sir, that Comets and Constellations are regarded as the most up-to-date aircraft, and the accidents to Comets and Constellations of the United Kingdom are well known. Therefore, to infer that our accidents are due to inferior type of aircraft is not borne out by facts.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I take it, Sir, that the efficiency in operation and the type of aircraft in this country have improved as to create confidence in the minds of passengers using them?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is like that.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** In view of the widely held belief that the life of our Dakotas is far beyond what would entail safety, has the Government gone into the entire question to find out as to whether our Dakotas still have quite a long time to go?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Experts have gone into this question—experts not only of this country but of other countries as well, and I may also point out that aircraft do not go old—they rather become obsolete when the particular aircraft and its parts are not manufactured. When the manufacture of that particular type of aircraft is stopped by the manufacturing company, and when the parts and spares are not available, that aircraft goes out of operation. That does not apply to Dakotas because spares are available and the expert opinion is that they can safely run up till 1960 and even beyond.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that while the Dakota manufacturers appointed the Hindustan Aircraft as the overhauling agents for the South-East Asia it was laid down as a condition that the Government of India do not ground their Dakota aircraft in both civil and military use, up to 1960?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I have already said that the experts hold the view that they can safely run till 1960 and even beyond that with normal overhauling.

**Shri G. S. Singh:** May I know how the figures of accidents compare—pre-nationalisation and post-nationalisation?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is too short a period. Moreover, I am afraid I have not worked pre-nationalisation figures. As hon. Members are aware, there was only one serious accident after nationalisation, not more than that.

SHIVA RAO COMMITTEE

***197. Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Shiva Rao Committee on Employment Exchanges have been considered by Government; and

(b) the main recommendations of the Committee that have been accepted by Government?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Shiva Rao Committee are under examination in consultation with the concerned Ministries of the Government of India and no final decision has been taken so far on any of the recommendations.

**Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** When is the consideration likely to be completed?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** The consideration is going on—I cannot state at present when it is likely to be completed.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** What is the reason for the delay though high officials of the Labour Ministry were in contact with this Committee in the course of its enquiry?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** There is no question of any delay. The report has come and is before the Labour and other Ministries of the Central Government and we do not want any delay that could be avoided.

**Shri P. C. Bose:** Is it a fact that the Committee has not paid much attention to the sub-regional exchange offices which are really responsible for recruitment and placing of the unemployed?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think it is premature to say so; the report is under the consideration of Government.

**Shri P. C. Bose:** The report has been circulated.

**Shri V. V. Giri:** It has given due consideration to the regional offices.

CATERING ON RAILWAYS

*198. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Brandon and Co. Ltd., caterers, have given notice that they propose closing down their business;

(b) the number of stations in which Messrs. Brandon & Co. Ltd., caterers, were having their catering arrangement on the Central Railway;

(c) whether it is a fact that the present caterers were asked to take up the work; and

(d) whether any fresh applications by notification were invited from others also?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Ten.

(c) Wherever the need for European style catering continues to be felt the existing Refreshment Room contractors have been asked temporarily to cater European style food also.

(d) Yes.

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** क्या यह सच नहीं हैं कि ईस्टर्न रेलवे तथा सेंट्रल रेलवे के कई मुख्य स्टेशनों पर एक ही कंट्रैक्टर का कार्य अपने नौकरों की तरफ से और खुद आज २० वर्षों से चल रहा हैं ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** आनरेबिल मेम्बर ने यह सवाल ब्रैंडन एंड कम्पनी के बारे में किया था। और किस कंट्रैक्टर का वह जिक्र कर रहे हैं यह मुझे मालूम नहीं हैं।

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि ब्रैंडन एंड कम्पनी जो कि जबलपुर में काम कर रही थी उसको उसी आदमी को दिया गया हैं जिसका कि कंट्रैक्ट दूसरी जगह पर भी हैं ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** मैं खास तौर पर नहीं कह सकता हूं। रेलवे ने एक आम पालिसी बनायी हैं और उस जनरल पालिसी के मुताबिक सब काम किया गया हैं।

**सरदार ए० एस० सहगल :** क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि ब्रैंडन एंड कम्पनी ने जिस वक्त अपना कार्य सौंपा उस वक्त जब वह कार्य दूसरों को सौंपा गया तो क्या टैंडर नहीं बुलाये गये थे ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** रेलवे में टैंडर बुलाने की कोई पालिसी हैं नहीं।

CLINIC FOR CHILDLESS COUPLES

*199. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the existence of a clinic at Bombay for giving advice to childless couples claimed to be the first of its kind in Asia and working under the Family Planning Association of India; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give any grant to this institution?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 20,200 for a research scheme submitted by the Director of the Institution.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether research in cases of infertility and sub-fertility has been undertaken and if so, what are the results?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** The research scheme has just been put up and it is impossible to give any results.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** How many experts are working in this clinic?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** There is one Director and there are three honorary physicians of standing who are helping him.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether the clinic is sending up schemes in respect of the above cases also?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Schemes are always being sent up and they are considered on their merits.

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL

*200. **Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have requested the International Wheat Council to revise the price of wheat?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** Yes, Sir.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What is the price that the Government of India has requested the Wheat Council to fix for the wheat imported by India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the exact figures but it would certainly be lower than the one which was mentioned previously, which was 1·55 dollars for a bushel.

**Shri S. N. Das:** How has the Wheat Council reacted to the suggestion?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The matter will be taken up in October 1954.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know if the Government is going to fulfil the obligation in spite of large stocks of wheat with the Government?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The obligation is there; so far we have not been compelled to act up to it and we hope it will not be necessary for us to do so.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Is it a fact that this agreement is likely to bring loss to the country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It will depend upon the circumstances that prevail in the country. If the floods and other things cause a severe loss, it will be wise for us to stick to the agreement.

ERNAKULAM-QUILON RAIL LINK

*201. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Travancore-Cochin has offered to supply the necessary power for electrification of the Ernakulam-Quilon rail link;

(b) what will be the additional cost for the electrification of this line;

(c) whether an assessment has been made of the running costs if run with electricity or with coal; and

(d) if so, with what result?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The estimated additional cost is Rs. 1·55 crores.

(c). Yes.

(d) It has been decided to postpone electrification for the present.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know whether it is a fact that the percentage of savings under electrification would be about seven per cent. if DC equipment is used and about ten per cent. if AC is used? May I also know whether the total savings would be in the neighbourhood of about Rs. 12 lakhs a year?

**Shri Alagesan:** I may not be able to go into the technical questions but I can broadly inform the House that the capital cost of electrification is always greater but the running cost is less.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I enquire what would be the value of coal per ton at the spot and whether it would not be costlier at the spot in Travancore-Cocin than in any other part of the country?

**Shri Alagesan:** I will not be able to give the actual cost of coal, but it is true that we have to transport coal from Bengal and Bihar, and Travancore-Cochin being the farthest corner, it will cost there more than elsewhere.

**Shri Achuthan:** In view of the fact that electricity will be more readily available in this part of the country in future and in view of answer to part (a) of the question, is it not the policy of the Government to electrify this rail link even though we have to spend more initially?

**Mr. Speaker:** This is carrying on an argument.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether this Ernakulam-Quilon rail link will be an electrified railway or a coal-run railway?

**Shri Alagesan:** That was my very answer.

EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS TRAINED ABROAD

***203. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in several cases persons sent abroad for special training in medicine have been employed on works other than those in which they received special training; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) and (b). The information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Government also enquire from the States and lay the information on the Table of the House—the information relating not only to the Central Government, *i.e.*, about people sent by them but also people sent by the States and also people getting scholarships from foreign countries?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** As far as the Central Government is concerned, there is no need for me to make an enquiry; I can tell the hon. Member that no scholar has ever gone abroad under any Central Government scheme and has come back and been employed in any other category than the one for which he was sent abroad. As far as the States are concerned, I have stated that I am making enquiries and when I have the information I will lay it on the Table of the House.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** There are many students and persons who are sent abroad on scholarships granted by foreign countries I want information about them also. Will this also be covered?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Yes. Since 1948, no students have been sent abroad for post-graduate study at Government expense. All the students that

have gone abroad, have gone on scholarships given by either the Rockfeller Foundation or W.H.O. or UNICEF and they are guaranteed employment by the States when they come back.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** Is it not a fact that students who have been abroad and have taken medical training and who have done their FRCS, are offered employment by the Government on salaries of Rs. 300 and Rs. 350 in the Irwin Hospital?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** They are, in my opinion, offered salaries which are not compatible with their status but that is the system that exists because doctors are expected to have private practice and make up the income in that way.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi** *rose*—

**Mr. Speaker:** I think there is no use carrying on the argument further.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** 205.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Sir, may I suggest that Question No. 217 may also be taken along with this Question? The subject matter is the same.

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** Sir, I have no objection.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well.

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN BIHAR STATE

***205. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar production in the Bihar State has declined by fifty per cent. in the year 1953-54 as compared to the years 1951-52 and 1952-53; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The production of sugar in the Bihar State during the years 1953-54, 1952-53 and 1951-52 was 1·46 lakh tons, 2·73 lakh tons and 2·24 lakh tons respectively. The production during 1953-54 was less by 46·5 per cent. as compared to that during 1952-53, and by 35 per cent. as compared to that of 1951-52.

(b) The decrease in the production of sugar during 1953-54 season as compared to that during 1952-53 or 1951-52 was due to the decline in the availability of sugarcane caused by a fall both in the area and production of sugarcane. The fall in acreage was due mainly to the low prices of *gur* and to adverse weather conditions at the sowing time. The crop was also considerably damaged by floods.

SUGAR-CANE PRODUCTION

***217. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the average sugar-cane production per acre in the Punjab, U.P., Bihar and in peninsular India during 1952 and 1953;

(b) the average percentage of recovery of sugar from sugar-cane in these States; and

(c) the steps that are proposed to be undertaken to step up production and increase the recovery?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 47.]

(c) The measures adopted to increase the per acre yields and sugar content of cane are:—

(i) provision of irrigation facilities,

(ii) establishment of seed nurseries and distribution of disease-free and improved varieties of seeds,

(iii) distribution of manures and fertilisers and intensive application of fertilisers to the

standing sugarcane crop during monsoon,

(iv) control of pests and diseases,

(v) organising trials and demonstration, and

(vi) organising cane competitions.

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** क्या यह सही नहीं है कि गन्ने की कीमत कम कर देने से ही गन्ने की खेती में कमी हो गयी है ?

**डा० पी० एस० देशमुख :** जैसा कि बारबार बतलाया गया यह इतना बड़ा कारण नहीं है जितना हमारे मेम्बर साहब समझते हैं ।

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि मन्त्री जी ने बतलाया कि गुड़ की कीमत कम हो जाने से किसानों ने गन्ने की खेती नहीं की, लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि बिहार में कै परसेंट गुड़ बनाया जाता है ?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would require notice of this question.

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** मेरा ख्याल है कि बिहार में गुड़ प्रायः नहीं बनाया जाता है, चीनी की कीमत इन वर्षों में २२, २४ रुपये मन रही है, चूंकि चीनी की कीमत ज्यादा रही है और गन्ने की कीमत कम रही है, इसलिये गन्ने की खेती मारी गयी ।

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is a suggestion.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** I find from the statement that besides Bihar, there are other States in which the yeild has gone down; for instance, Madras, Punjab, West Bengal and Mysore. Could I know the reasons for this decrease in yield?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** As I have mentioned, it was due to adverse weather conditions, prevalence of pests and diseases and lack of irrigation facilities. It will be recalled how some of the irrigation tanks in Madras and Mysore were completely dried up, a thing that did not happen within a period of six years.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** In his broadcast in June of this year the hon. Minister stated that the two plans on which we could deal with this question were the abolition of the poverty of the cultivator and the abolition of the poverty of the soil. In regard to soil he has given just now the measures that he proposes to take. But as far as the abolition of the poverty of the cultivator is concerned, he has given us no indicantion as to the measures that he is going to adopt to remove that.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Increased production will necessarily diminish the poverty of the cultivator. Secondly, we are trying to give him advances and additional credit as far as possible.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether on account of the small production some factories are moving from the north to the south, and, if so, how many and at what cost?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This is not because of low production particularly in this year. There have been factories which have been located in wrong places, and there are some of them which are shifting.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Do Government propose to appoint a committee to go into the entire question of cost of sugarcane cultivation and sugar prices?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes. There was an item on the agenda of the Sugar Development Board, and it has been accepted; and investigations are going to be undertaken.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know whether this decrease in production is not due to the gradual fall in the prices offered to the sugarcane grower in the different parts of the country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Over a number of years, it might be possible. But what we deny is that one year's low prices have had that effect, because there is a gap between cultivation and reaping of the harvest. But I admit that low prices

of sugarcane are bound to react unfavourably on greater production of sugarcane.

RAILWAY CLAIMS

*206. **Shrimati Tarkeswari Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of compensation claims against Railways during the year 1953-54;

(b) whether complaints have been received from businessmen against long delays in the settlement of claims; and

(c) whether Government propose to appoint some special claims officers to expedite the settlement dues?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Railways do not maintain statistics of amounts of claims preferred by public. Total amount of claims paid by the Indian Railways during 1953-54 was approximately Rs. 3·07 crores.

(b) and (c). There have been some complaints of delay in the settlement of claims, but these do not justify the appointment of special claims officers. The average time taken in the settlement of a claim which was 94 days in 1949-50 has already been brought down to 71 days in 1952-53.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know how many claims officers have so far been appointed and how many claims have so far been settled by them?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** It is a very big question. If the hon. Member would like to have the information, I would be prepared to give it.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know which are the specific areas or zones which have yet to dispose of the largest number of claims?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Most of the claims are settled very expeditiously. There are no very large outstanding claims that remain to be settled. At the very outset, at the end of every year we have about 2½ months' intake That is not much, and no very large number of claims are outstanding anywhere.

**Shri G. P. Sinha** *rose*—

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

FACTORIES ACT

*207. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directions were given to the State Governments by the Government of India during 1953-54 under Section 113 of the Factories Act;

(b) if so, for what specific purposes; and

(c) whether a copy of these directions will be laid on the Table of the House?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** How many times were these powers availed of since 1948?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I would require notice.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Did the Centre circulate to the State Governments model rules as required under the Act, in order to ensure uniformmity?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** No, Sir. I do not think there are any model rules.

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS IN PAKISTAN

*209. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the actual work of transfer of Post Office Savings Bank Accounts and Savings Certificates from Pakistan to India has been resumed; and

(b) if so, the number of accounts and certificates transferred so far during 1954 together with the amount involved in such transfers?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** What are the fresh difficulties that have arisen in effecting these transfers?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** In 1953 negotiations were held in Karachi between the Governments of India and Pakistan about these accounts and it was agreed that two officers from our side will go to Karachi and Lahore and two officers from their side will come to Delhi and Ambala to expedite the transfer of these accounts. We have selected our officers and are waiting to hear from the Pakistan Government, because officers from both sides are to cross the border at the same time. As soon as we hear from them we will send our officers.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** What is the amount involved in these Savings Banks Accounts which we are to recover in Pakistan in case an agreement is reached?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is very difficult to work out the accurate amuont involved but approximately from our side it will be nearly Rs. 3 crores and theirs will be Rs. 16 lakhs only.

**Shri Bahadur Singh:** When was the last figure sent to them on this subject?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I have not got the information but it must have been sent very recently—may be—during the course of this month.

RAILWAY RATES AND FARES

*210. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is proposed to investigate the possibility and desirability of adjusting rates and fares in certain areas to assist the developmental plans of the Railways?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Yes Sir. As announced in last Budget Speech of the Minister, the implications and practicability of certain suggestions for adjustments in the fares and freight rate structure are being examined.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** May I know the areas where this investigation is being carried on?

**Shri Alagesan:** The proposal is under consideration in consultation with the Railway Administrations. I do not think I am expected to disclose the nature of the proposals on this subject.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** I have not heard the answer clearly.

**Shri Alagesan:** There are certain proposals which are being considered in consultation with the various Railway Administrations.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** Is there any committee that is going to be set up for that purpose?

**Shri Alagesan:** No, Sir.

POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL STUDIES

*211. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to set up an All-India Medical Institute for post-graduate training in different Branches of Medicine has been prepared; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the scheme?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) The main features of the scheme are given in the statement which is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 48.]

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know, Sir, if this institution will be associated with some first-class medical colleges like Poona Medical College, where post-graduate course will be available?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** The All India Medical Institute will be a separate entity.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know if it will be a separate establishment and whether the cost will be incurred separately? How would it differentiate with such medical colleges where such facilities are available for research and also for hospitals and so on?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** There will be co-operation but it will not be affiliated to another Institute. There will be co-operation all the time between all the medical colleges in India and this Institute.

**Shri Nesamony:** May I know, Sir, whether any officers have already been appointed for this All India Medical Institute?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** No, Sir, not yet.

SERVICING OF TRACTORS

*212. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 2171 asked on the 30th April, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the Committee on servicing of tractors etc. appointed some time ago has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No. The Committee has finalised its report, which is now under circulation to members for signature.

(b) Does not arise.

चीनी के कारखाने

*२१३. **डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आंध्र सरकार ने राज्य में चीनी के कारखाने खोलने के सम्बन्ध में एक योजना केन्द्रीय सरकार को भेजी है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra have stated that they are examining a scheme for setting up a sugar factory on co-operative basis. Detailed proposals in this regard have not yet been received from them.

**डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि सरकार ने कोई ऐसा निश्चय किया है कि उत्तर भारत से कुछ शुगर मिलें दक्षिण भारत में ले जाई जायें ?

**डा० पी० एस० देशमुख :** ऐसे चन्द प्रपोजल्स हैं, मगर इस की पूरी इन्फार्मेशन इस वक्त मेरे पास नहीं है ।

**डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि आन्ध्र वगैरह में और यू० पी०, पंजाब वगैरह में गन्ने की फी एकड़ पैदावार में क्या फर्क है ?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the question goes beyond its scope.

COTTON MARKETING COMMITTEE

*214. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1987 asked on the 22nd April, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Cotton Marketing Committee have since been implemented; and

(b) if so, the progress made in connection with the marketing of cotton in the country since the scheme was implemented?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b). The recommendations, in so far as they relate to the State Governments, were forwarded to them for necessary action. The cotton growing States have

generally accepted the recommendations. The progress of implementation is being ascertained from them and will be placed on the table of the House in due course. In so far as the recommendations concern the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Central Government, their implementation will depend on the proposed all-India Cotton Marketing Survey, a scheme in regard to which has been prepared and is under the consideration of Government in consultation with the said Committee.

QUALITY OF D.D.T.

*215. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received from various parts of the country about the inferior quality of D.D.T. sprayed by the Malaria Control Units this year; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the quality of D.D.T.?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Complaints from a few States were received regarding the poor suspensibility of D.D.T supplied to the States in 1952. No complaints were received about the supplies made in 1953 and 1954.

(b) Sufficient quantities of a corrective mixture, Antarox A 201, have been imported and distributed to States concerned to improve the suspensibility of D.D.T.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** May I know, Sir, whether West Bengal is the only State that made a complaint about the quality of DDT and whether the Government are aware of the fact that DDT spread this year has not prevented the growth of mosquitoes in other germs areas?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** West Bengal did have some quantity of the corrective mixture sent to them but I have not received any report from West Bengal to say that mosquitoes have not been brought under control.

CRIMES ON RAILWAYS

*216. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which passengers were robbed or murdered or thrown out of the compartment from running trains during 1953 on the Indian Railways; and

(b) what was the number of such cases in 1952?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b)—

| | 1953 | 1952 |
|---|---|---|
| Robberies | 85 | 70 |
| Murders | 8 | 9 |
| Thrown out of compartments | 6 | 1 |

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know, Sir, how many of these happened to ladies and how many to men?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I do not have the break-up of the figures.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know which railway is the worst affected at present so far as these accidents go?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Sir, in 1952 the largest number of robberies took place on the North-Eastern Railway; it was 22, and in 1953 the largest number of robberies took place on the Southern Railway it was 21.

**Mr. Speaker:** It will depend on the propensities of the population through which the railways are passing; not necessarily on the local Railway Administration. I think we will proceed to the next question.

FERTILISERS

*218. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the model scheme on the subject of fundamental investigations regarding the properties

of manures and fertilizers, prepared by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and recommended to the State Governments, has been given effect to by the various State Governments; and

(b) whether the results of such experiments have been published for general information?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The Model agronomic (including manurial) experiments are to be undertaken from Rabi 1954 at 34 centres in the States of Andhra, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, U.P., West Bengal, Hyderabad, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Pepsu, Bhopal, Coorg, Mysore, Vindhya Pradesh and Kashmir. Preliminary arrangements for location of sites etc. are under way.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, whether in carrying out the scheme the various States were given any Central grant, and if so, what was the amount?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, the scheme was sanctioned by the govering body of the ICAR at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs to be incurred till 31st March, 1956. The entire expenditure will be met by them.

EXPORT OF RICE

*219. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rice is being exported to other countries; and

(b) if so, how much rice has been exported during the current year and to which countries?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Government have allowed export of rice to foreign countries. Traders can now purchase rice from the free market and arrange its export after payment of export duty.

(b) No rice has been exported up to 31st July, as the new arrangement was notified only on 24th July.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether the policy of the export of rice is due to the abundance of rice in the country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is due to the abundance of rice as well as our desire for maintenance of our previous market.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MEDICAL STUDENTS ABROAD

*202. **Shri S. K. Razmi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical students sent abroad for higher studies at Government expense during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 respectively;

(b) the number of medical students reading in London at present; and

(c) the number of post-graduate medical students in London and other countries?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) No medical student was sent abroad for higher studies at Government expense during these years.

(b) and (c). It is presumed that (b) and (c) relate to students mentioned in (a). If so in view of reply to (a), (b) and (c) do not arise.

LIVE-STOCK

*204. **Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to improve the quality of live-stock, Government have supplied a number of bulls to the various States; and

(b) if so, the total number of bulls so far supplied; and

(c) how many of them have been supplied to U.P.?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) 548.

(c) 185.

LOCUST INVASION

*220. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
**Shri K. P. Sinha:**
**Shri B. K. Das:**
**Shri N. Rachiah:**
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**
**Shri Raghunath Singh:**
**Shri S. C. Singhal:**
**Shri N. C. Kasliwal:**
**Shri P. C. Bose:**

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of locust swarms which have so far come to India from Pakistan during the year 1954;

(b) the extent of damage done to the standing crops by them in each region; and

(c) whether any additional precautions have been taken to prevent their menace?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) About 80.

(b) A precise assessment of damage in various States is not available. The damage, however, does not appear to be serious.

(c) A statement in this regard is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 49.]

RECRUITMENT OF SEAMEN

*221. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the existing system of recruitment of seamen;

(b) whether there is any proposal to effect a change in the system; and

(c) if so, what will be the proposed new system?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) to (c). The Shipping Companies hitherto selected only the senior ratings, *e.g.* Butlers and Serangs direct while the selection of the rest of the crew was left to these senior ratings. On account of serious complaints received against this system of recruitment, Government have decided to set up statutory Employment Offices at Bombay and Calcutta which are the two principal ports of recruitment in India. An office has already been established and is working in Bombay from the 7th June, 1954 and a similar office is expected to function at Calcutta very shortly. Under the new arrangement, seamen will be recruited on the principle of rotation with reasonable freedom to shipowners in the selection of crews and to seamen in the selection of their ship.

TUBE-WELLS

*222. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a contract has been entered into with a French combine of contractors for the construction of tube-wells in India;

(b) if so, when this work will be completed; and

(c) what arrangements have been made to get diesel generating sets, pumping sets and insulators, so that the work may be completed soon?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) By January, 1956.

(c) These wells are located in areas where surplus power is expected to be available from existing sources of power generation. All the pumping sets have been ordered from indigenous manufacturers and are already being supplied. Arrangements for the import of insulators after inviting tenders on a global basis are being made and they are expected to arrive in time for the completion of the tube-wells.

METEOROLOGICAL TRAINING

*223. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for discontinuing the scheme of training Pilot candidates in Meteorology at the five Regional Centres, *viz.*, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Delhi and Nagpur; and

(b) whether Government propose to revive the scheme?

**The Minister of Communications** (Shri **Jagjivan Ram**): (a) The scheme was discontinued because of insufficient interest and poor response on the part of the Flying Clubs and trainees to avail of the training facilities.

(b) The scheme will be revived if there is a demand for it from the Flying Clubs and from those for whose benefit it is intended and if they take advantage of it.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

*224. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tractors are lying idle in the Central Tractor Organisation for want of fast-moving spare parts;

(b) whether any arrangements have been made to rehabilitate these tractors; and

(c) if so, what are they?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture** (**Shri Kidwai**): (a) No tractor is lying idle for want of spare parts.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

चलते फिरते डाकघर

*२२५. श्री भागवत झा आजाद : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रात की हवाई डाक के लिये और अधिक सुविधा देने के लिये अतिरिक्त चलते फिरते डाकघरों की व्यवस्था की जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ग) वे कहां कहां चलेंगे ?

**The Minister of Communications** (**Shri Jagjivan Ram**): (a) Yes.

(b) Five.

(c) 2 at Bombay 2 at Calcutta and one additional van for Delhi.

ASSAM RAIL LINK

*226. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether any alternative arrangement has been made to carry goods to Assam from the rest of India due to breaches at several places on the Assam rail link especially when passenger-traffic has been diverted by roads on the south-bank from Pandu to Bongaigaon *via* Jogighopa-Pancharatna?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport** (**Shri Shahnawaz Khan**): No alternative arrangements for the ordinary carriage of goods and passenger traffic by means other than rail have been made by the Railway. Special arrangements were, however, made to evacuate by road, the passengers who had already arrived by train and had been held up at Bongaigaon prior to the suspension of the train services.

WAGON MOVEMENTS

*228. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1134 asked on the 17th March, 1954 and state:

(a) whether Government have completed the examination of the memorandum submitted by the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry wherein a complaint was made of the inadequacy of transport

facilities at break-of-gauge points, etc.; and

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) A statement indicating the position in respect of the points referred to in part (a) of the question is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 50.]

PRICES OF FOODGRAINS

*229. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tendencies of prices of foodgrains in the various food zones have been observed; and

(b) if so, what do they indicate?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 51.]

## कुष्टरोग का इलाज

*२३०. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या कुष्टरोग के लिये कोई प्रभावोत्पादक औषधि खोज निकाली गई है ;

(ख) क्या गांवों में इस का प्रयोग बड़े पैमाने पर किया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस का क्या परिणाम हुआ है ?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Recent researches and clinical trials indicate that the sulphone group of drugs are efficacious in the treatment of leprosy.

(b) Sulphone therapy is being widely used in India, including the rural areas, but it has not yet been tried on a mass scale in heavily infected areas. This will now be done under the Leprosy Control Scheme which has recently been introduced.

(c) The results of clinical trials with sulphones have so far been quite encouraging.

ROADS

75. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total mileage of roads of all kinds in India prior to 1947;

(b) the mileage of all-weather roads in India prior to 1947;

(c) the mileage of motorable roads in India prior to 1947;

(d) the mileage of all-weather roads at present in India; and

(e) the mileage of motorable roads at present in India?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** The information required, so far as it relates to municipal roads, is not available.

The available figures of mileage of extra-municipal roads prior to 1947 relate to prepartition India. The mileages of such roads as on the 31st March 1945, were as follows:

(a) Total mileage=3,13,342.

(b) Mileage of all-weather roads= 1,37,336.

(c) Mileage of motorable roads = 2,27,488.

Reliable figures of mileage as on the 31st March 1946 and 31st March 1947 could not be obtained on account of the disturbances accompanying partition.

Upto-date figures showing the present mileages of extra-municipal roads in India, all-weather and motorable, are not available. The latest figures available, which are given below, show

the position as on the 31st March 1950, but even these are only provisional, as complete data are still awaited from the Government of West Bengal.

(d) Mileage of all-weather roads = 1,24,996.

(e) Mileage of motorable roads = 1,87,421.

**मध्य प्रदेश में कुष्ट निवारण केन्द्र**

७६. **श्री मगन लाल बागड़ी** : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) पंच वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश में कितने कुष्ट निवारण केन्द्र हैं ;

(ख) ये केन्द्र कौन कौन से स्थानों में हैं ; और

(ग) इन में से प्रत्येक केन्द्र में कितने कुष्ट रोगी रखने की व्यवस्था है और कितने रोगी वास्तव में वहां रह रहे हैं ?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumri Amrit Kaur)**: (a) Two.

(b) At Raipur and Amravati.

(c) There is accommodation for 250 and 120 patients at Raipur and Amravati, respectively, the number of patients at the former place being 246 and at the latter 147.

PROVIDENT FUND FOR TEA GARDEN LABOURERS

**77. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made demanding provident fund for the employees of Tea Plantations; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken so far?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri)**: (a) Yes.

(b) The question of extending the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, to the employees of tea-plantations is at present under consideration.

CANNING FACTORY FOR PRESERVATION OF FISH OIL

**78. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantity of Sardines and Mackerels hauled in the Malabar Coast from Cape Comorin to Cassergode annually from the year 1950 to 1954;

(b) whether, in view of the usual plentiful supplies of Sardines, Government propose to start a canning factory for the preservation of Sardines of Malabar for consumption in the interior parts of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai)**: (a) The estimated catches of Sardines and Mackerels in the Malabar coast from Cape Comorin to Kassergode for the years 1950—53 are:

( In tons )

| | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mackerals | 80,552 | 66,352 | 27,830 | 15,139 |
| Sardines | 52,199 | 40,292 | 35,456 | 53,389 |

Figures for 1954 are not available.

(b) No.

(c) Due to the uncertainty of the appearance of Sardine shoals on Malabar Coast commercial success of canning industry is doubtful until the fishery can be developed at a sustained annual yield.

AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

**79. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose of holding the State Agriculture Ministers' Conference in Kashmir recently;

(b) the recommendations of this Conference;

(c) when and where was the previous Conference of the State Agriculture Ministers held and what were its recommendations;

(d) how many of the recommendations referred to in part (c) above have been reported by States as having been already implemented;

(e) the agenda of the recent conference; and

(f) the overall expenses incurred by the Government of India on this conference?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) The purpose of holding the State Agriculture Ministers' Conference was to afford an opportunity to the Ministers and officers of the States who are dealing with agriculture and allied subjects to confer among themselves and with the Union Minister and the officers of the Central Government on matters of common interest.

(b) A summary of the proceedings of the Conference, containing its recommendations, is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library, *See* No. S-270/54.]

(c) The previous Conference of the State Agriculture Ministers was held in New Delhi in September, 1953. The recommendations of this Conference are contained in the proceedings of the Conference, copies of which have been placed in the Library of Parliament.

(d) States have reported that they have implemented a fair number of the recommendations of the last Conference. The Government of India are, still in correspondence with the States in regard to the implementation of the remaining recommendations.

(e) A copy of the Agenda of the recent Conference is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 52.]

(f) It has not been possible yet to make any precise estimate of the overall expenditure incurred by the Government of India on this Conference, but on rough calculations it is anticipated that it will be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 23,000.

WADGE BANK

**80. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include in the Second Five Year Plan, the exploitation of the Fishing bank off the coast of Travancore-Cochin State known as "Wadge Bank";

(b) whether Government have worked out any scheme in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details of such scheme;

(d) whether, with a view to exploiting the vast resources in Fisheries in this bank, the Government of India have detailed any team of scientists to study the "Wadge Bank" in relation to its exploitation in the near future; and

(e) if so, what are the results of such a study?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) The scheme is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

MARINE FISH

**81. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that at present large quantities of Marine fish caught in India are rendered useless for consumption on account of non-availability of refrigeration facilities for their transport to interior places;

(b) if so, what steps, if any have been taken by the Government of India

to provide adequate facilities to help the transport of marine fish to the interior places;

(c) whether Railway Ministry has been requested for providing refrigeration facilities for such transport; and

(d) if so, what is the result of such approach and how many refrigeration vans have been put in service so far for transport of fish?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Most of the areas where marine fish are caught also have curing yards and consequently all the surplus fish in these areas is salted and cured and then transported for consumption in the country or exported to neighbouring countries. In certain areas, however, where salting and curing is not done on a large scale, some marine fish may be wasted. The quantity wasted in this manner, however, is very small.

(b) and (c). This Ministry of Food and Agriculture have approached the Transport Ministry for adequate refrigerated transport on the Calicut—Madras Railway line. If that experiment proves successful, similar action for providing refrigerated transport will be taken on other railway routes. Provincial Governments are being helped to acquire refrigerated motor transport for transport of fish to consuming centres in the interior.

(d) The matter is still under examination of the Ministry of Transport.

COMMITTEE FOR REVIEWING OF FISHERIES RESEARCH WORK

**82. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the *Ad hoc* Committee appointed for reviewing and assessing the research work done at the Central Marine and Inland Fisheries Research Stations has submitted any report;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to place a copy of the report on the Table of the House; and

(c) the overall expenses incurred on this Committee up to the 1st August, 1954?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report recently submitted is under examination, and will be placed on the table of the house after Government have examined it and reached its conclusions on the action to take.

(c) About Rs. 12,000.

REFRIGERATION WAGONS

**83. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways have at present "refrigeration wagons" in use, to facilitate transport of Fish and other perishables;

(b) if so, the number of such wagons that are in service at present;

(c) the quantity of fish transported in 1953-54 by refrigerated wagons provided by Railways;

(d) whether Indian Railways have at present any scheme to provide adequate number of such wagons from coastal towns to interior places;

(e) if so, what is the target for the next two years; and

(f) what is the type of refrigeration units used in such wagons?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Proposals have been discussed with the various interests but no definite scheme has yet been finalised.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN PUNJAB

**84. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the names of National Highways in the Punjab and their mileage?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** A

statement giving the required information is annexed. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 53.]

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

**85. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telegraph offices and post offices for the opening of which provision has been made in the 1954-55 budget; and

(b) the loss Government suffered on account of such offices which were opened in 1952-53 and 1953-54?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a)—

| | |
|---|---|
| Post Offices | 4,308 |
| Telegraph offices | 920 |

(b) 1952-53

| | |
|---|---|
| Post Offices | Rs. 2,40,775/- |
| Telegraph offices | Rs. 381/- |

1953-54

| | |
|---|---|
| Post offices | Rs. 3,27,118/- |
| Telegraph Offices | Rs. 5,746/- |

HINDI TELEGRAMS

**86. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of Hindi telegrams sent from and received in the telegraph offices in the Punjab State during 1953?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** During the year 1953 the number of Hindi telegrams sent from and received in the telegraph offices in the Punjab State are as follaws:—

No. of telegrams sent 251.

No. of telegrams received. 103.

PACKAGES IN LOST PROPERTY OFFICES

**87. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of packages lying in the lost property offices of the various Railways on the 31st March, 1954; and

(b) the number of such packages on the 31st March 1953?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 35,535.

(b) 39,337.

**भारतीय वायु निगम की कार्यप्रणाली**

**८८. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय वायु निगम की स्थापना से पहले विभिन्न हवाई कम्पनियों का वार्षिक लाभ कितने प्रतिशत था और निगम की स्थापना के बाद एक वर्ष में उसे कितने प्रतिशत का घाटा हुआ;

(ख) घाटे के क्या कारण हैं और घाटे को लाभ में परिणत करने के लिए क्या प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं ;

(ग) भारतीय वायु निगम के पदाधिकारियों और कार्यालय आदि का वार्षिक व्यय क्या है ;

(घ) इस निगम की स्थापना से पहले हवाई कम्पनियों के प्रबन्ध पर प्रति वर्ष क्या खर्च किया जाता था ;

(ङ) यदि इन दोनों में कोई अन्तर हो, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(च) इस वर्ष में भारतीय वायु निगम ने जो यात्री तथा डाक ढोयी, उसकी तुलना में हवाई कम्पनियों ने प्रति वर्ष कितने यात्री तथा डाक ढोयी थी ?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) I lay on the Table a statement giving the information available relating to the profits

or losses of the several airline companies before the establishment of the Indian Airline Corporation. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 54.]

Corresponding figures relating to the loss incurred by the Corporation are not at present available.

(b) I lay on the Table a statement giving the reasons for the loss and the steps taken to reduce it. [*See* Appendix 1, annexure No. 54.]

(c) About Rs. 394 lakhs, on the basis of figures for the period August, 1953 to March, 1954.

(d) The information is not readily available.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) I lay on the Table a statement giving the information at present available. [*See* Appendix 1, annexure No. 54.]

PUBLIC CALL OFFICES

**89. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to permit the opening of Public Call Offices in private premises, clubs, petrol stations etc., on certain conditions to be fulfilled by the owners of such premises; and

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions that are to be fulfilled for the opening of such Public Call Offices?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix 1, annexure No. 55.]

SCHEME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOSPITAL DIETETICS

**90. { Shri S. N. Das; Shri A. M. Thomas: Shri Krishna Chandra:**

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have sanctioned any scheme for the development of hospital dietetics in which participation of various States is envisaged;

(b) if so, what are the important features of such a scheme;

(c) whether any and if so, which of the State Governments have agreed to participate in this scheme; and

(d) the cost of implementing this scheme and the manner in which the expenditure will be shared between the States and the Centre?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). A statement giving the information required is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 56.]

SUGAR-CANE YIELD

**91. Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how the present average yield of sugar-cane in India compares with those of the other sugar producing countries?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** The per acre yields of sugarcane in India average about 14 tons as against about 17 tons to 62 tons in other sugar producing countries as shown below:

| Country | Average yield of sugarcane per acre (Tons) |
|---|---|
| India | 14.1 |
| Australia | 21.3 |
| Cuba | 17·1 |
| Hawaii | 62·1 |
| Java | 56.0 |
| Lausiana | 19·8 |
| Mauritius | 19·6 |
| Puerto Rico | 24·2 |

The yields of sugarcane in the tropical parts of India, particularly parts of Bombay-Deccan, average about 40 tons per acre.

IMPORTED SUGAR

**92. Shri C. R. Chowdary:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity of sugar imported annually during the last five years, specifying in each year, the name of the country, the quantity imported and the price paid per ton?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** A statement giving the necessary information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix 1, annexure No. 57.]

"अधिक अन्न उपजाओ" योजना

९३. श्री आर० एन० सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन किन राज्यों में "अधिक अन्न उपजाओ" योजना अभी तक चालू है और प्रत्येक राज्य में यह कितनी सफल हुई है;

(ख) प्रत्येक राज्य में इस योजना के प्रचार पर कितना खर्च हुआ है; और

(ग) विभिन्न राज्यों को १९५२-५३ तथा १९५३-५४ में "अधिक अन्न उपजाओ" योजना के लिए कितनी कितनी राशियां ऋण के रूप में दी गई हैं ?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) to (c). Three statements are laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 58.]

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

**94. { Pandit D. N. Tiwary: / Shri M. L. Agrawal:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway accidents from January to June 1954 are the highest as compared to those that occurred in any half year since 1947;

(b) the number of accidents including the derailments that occurred in the different Zones in each month from 1st January to 31st July 1954 to the passenger and the goods trains;

(c) the number of deaths, serious injuries and loss of Railway properties in these accidents;

(d) the number of claims filed and the amount of compensations paid and to be paid; and

(e) the number of accidents in 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No. The incidence of train accidents during the first half year of 1954 is the least in comparison to that during the half-yearly periods since 1952. Figures on a comparable basis for the other years since 1947 are not available.

(b) 470 train accidents involving trains carrying passengers; and 1507 involving other trains.

(c) Deaths 119.

Serious injuries 97.

Information in respect of cost of damage to railway property will be furnished later.

(d) (i) Number of claims received 81.

(ii) Amount of compensation paid Rs. 42.

(iii) Amount of compensation to be paid Rs. 26,400.

(e) Information will be furnished later.

TUBE-WELLS IN U. P.

**95. Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned any amount to U.P. during 1953-54 and 1954-55 for the construction of tube-wells and ordinary wells; and

(b) If so, what is the amount?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 288·21 lakhs in 1953-54 and Rs. 102·75 lakhs in 1954-55.

SOLAR ECLIPSE OBSERVATIONS

**96. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientists and meteorologists from various parts of the country gathered at Phalodi near Jodhpur on the 30th June 1954 for observations of the total Solar eclipse; and

(b) if so, what are the important results of the observations which are of astronomic importance?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Groups of observing parties from the Meteorological Observatories at Bombay, Poona, Kodaikanal and Delhi gathered at Phalodi to record special magnetic, ionospheric, atmospheric and limited solar observations during the total solar eclipse on the 30th June 1954.

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 59.]

TEA GARDENS

**97. Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the number of persons who have returned from Assam to Orissa so far as a result of closure of certain tea gardens during the years 1952, 1953 and 1954?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** According to the information available, 8480 persons including dependents were repatriated from Assam to Orissa during the period 1st September, 1951 to 30th June, 1952, 11,231 from 1st September, 1952 to 30th June, 1953 and 6,400 from 1st September, 1953 to 30th June, 1954.

Separate figures of labourers repatriated due to closure of tea-gardens are not available.

SWEEPERS ON THE EASTERN RAILWAY

**98. Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sweepers engaged on the Eastern Railway;

(b) the amount spent by the Railway towards the education of these sweepers and their children;

(c) the number of elementary schools maintained by the Railway giving the places where they are located;

(d) the names of places where these schools are located; and

(e) whether Government consider these arrangements as adequate?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 9240.

(b) Children of all railway servants, including sweepers, can avail themselves of the facilities of Railway schools wherever these are available. The Railway Administration also provides evening classes for advancing adult literacy. No data is available regarding the amount specifically spent by the Railway Administration on the education of sweepers and their children, nor is it possible to collect it.

(c) and (d). 33: A list is attached herewith. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 60.]

(e) Education is a State responsibility but Railway Administrations are running railway schools to supplement the schools provided by State Governments and local institutions, in order to improve the educational facilities available to children of railway employees, particularly in large railway colonies.

फंसे हुए भारतीय जहाज

९९. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५३-५४ में कितने भारतीय जहाज भारतीय तटों पर ज़मीन में फंस गये;

(ख) उन में से कितने निकाल लिए गए और पुनः काम में लाए गए; और

(ग) कितने अभी तक फंसे पड़े हैं?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Four.

(b) All the four were refloated, repaired, where necessary, and put into use again.

(c) Does not arise.

KEY VILLAGE SCHEME

**100. Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the number of 'Key Villages' that have been established in the Punjab in connection with the programmes of live-stock improvement?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** 28.

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

**101. Shri Jethalal Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of articles that have been received in the Dead Letter Office as unclaimed in the year 1953-54;

(b) the value of jewellery, currency notes and other valuables that were found enclosed in these articles;

(c) the value of such articles which were sent back to the sender or the addressee; and

(d) the value of unclaimed property auctioned and the amount of money that was credited to the Government treasury?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) 13 Millions.

(b) Rs. 16,26,000.

(c) Rs. 14,65,000.

(d) (i) Rs. 8,311 (Value of unclaimed property auctioned).

(ii) Rs. 7,976 (Amount credited to Government Treasury). The balance represents value of articles still held in deposit in the Dead Letter Offices.

NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

**102. Shri Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the programme for the replacement of Lucknow telephone system by an Automatic Exchange;

(b) the programme for the improvement of Mathura Telephone Exchange and for providing a new Telephone Exchange at Vrindaban in Mathura District; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct a suitable building for the Head Post and Telegraph Office at Mathura?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) A project for installing a 4,000 lines automatic telephone exchange at Lucknow to replace the existing 2,060 line manual system has been sanctioned. The equipment is expected in April 1955 and the automatic telephone system is expected to start functioning in the latter half of 1956.

(b) A new telephone exchange of 300 lines capacity is under installation in a new building to replace the existing 200 line exchange at Mathura. The work is expected to be completed by the end of October this year.

At Vrindaban installation of a 20 lines telephone exchange has been sanctioned. The exchange will be opened if sufficient number of subscribers are forthcoming.

(c) Yes.

परिवार आयोजन

१०३. **श्री दिगम्बर सिंह:** क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि कितनी संस्थाएं संतति निरोध के लिए कार्य कर रही हैं और इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार से सहायता पा रही हैं?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** The Central Government have so far granted financial assistance to 17 such institutions.

BRANCH POST OFFICES IN MADRAS

**104. Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Branch Post Offices opened in the Madras State in 1952-53 and 1953-54;

(b) the number of extra-departmental Postmasters appointed in Madras in these two years respectively; and

(c) the number of Scheduled Caste candidates amongst them?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):**

| | 1952-53 | 1953-54 |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | 70 | 170 |
| (b) | 313 | 479 |
| (c) | 6 | 5 |

FAMILY PLANNING

**105. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that World Family Planning Centres are experimenting on the use of Phosphorilated Hespisidni Tablets in birth control;

(b) whether any such experiment on the use of these tablets has been conducted in any Centre in India; and

(c) if so, what are the results?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) It is understood that observations on this drug are being carried out in U.S.A.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

# LOK SABHA

# DEBATES

**(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)**

**VOLUME VI, 1954**

*(23rd August to 11th September, 1954)*

## Seventh Session

## 1954

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

Date: 27/11/2014



## LOK SABHA

*Friday, 27th August, 1954*

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*The Lok Sabha met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*(See Part I)*

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8-15 A.M.

## MESSAGE FROM THE RAJYA SABHA

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Rajya Sabha:—

"I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 25th August, 1954, has passed the enclosed motion referring the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Bill, 1953, to a Joint Committee of the Houses and to request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha in the said motion and the names of the Members of the Lok Sabha to be appointed to the said Joint Committee may be communicated to this House'.

*Motion*

That the Bill to amend and codify certain parts of the law relating to minority and guardianship among Hindus be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses





consisting of 45 Members; 15 Members from this House, namely:—

Shrimati Pushpalata Das, Shri Mahesh Saran, Shri T. R. Deogirikar, Shri R. U. Agnibhoj, Shri S. Venkataraman, Sardar Darshan Singh Pheruman, Shri T. Pande, Shri S. Channa Reddy, Shrimati Sharda Bhargava, Shri B. P. Basappa Shetty, Shri V. Venkataramana, Shri S. N. Mazumdar, Shri Radhakrishna Biswasroy, Shri P. C. Bhanj Deo, Shri C. C. Biswas,

and 30 Members from the Lok Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee;

that in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make;

that this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of the Members to be appointed by the Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee; and

that the Committee shall make a report to this House on or before the last day of the first week of the next session."

The above motion was passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 25th August, 1954.

## COFFEE MARKET EXPANSION (AMENDMENT) BILL

### PRESENTATION OF PETITION

**Shri Punnoose** (Alleppey): I beg to present a petition from the employees of the All-India Coffee Board relating to the Coffee Market Expansion (Amendment) Bill, 1954.

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## CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

### CANAL WATERS DISPUTE

**Shri Raghubir Sahai** (Etah Distt.—North East *cum* Budaun Distt.—East): Under Rule 215, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

> "The statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan at a Press Conference in Pakistan on the 15th July, 1954, regarding the Canal Waters Issue."

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** Sir, in connection with the dispute between India and Pakistan regarding the utilisation of the waters of the Indus system of rivers it would not be desirable for me, at this stage, to deal with the controversial aspects of matters which are still the subject of negotiation, between the two countries. I shall, however, acquaint the House with the present position in respect of this dispute.

The House will recall that on the 4th May, 1948, the Governments of India and Pakistan entered into an Agreement by which India was progressively to diminish the supply of waters to Pakistan canals as Pakistan tapped alternative sources of supply. Not much progress could, however, be made in the implementation of this agreement till, towards the end of 1951, the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development suggested, that the Bank would be prepared to lend its good offices in resolving the dispute.

The Governments of India and Pakistan accepted in March, 1952, the proposal of the Bank that a Working Party should be set up consisting of engineers of India and Pakistan, who would be assisted by engineers of the Bank, with the object of preparing, for the consideration of the two Governments, a comprehensive plan for the development of the water resources of the Indus region, so that the river supplies effectively available to each country would be increased substantially beyond what they had ever been. It was agreed also at that time that neither party would, while joint work was in progress, diminish the supplies of water available to the other side for existing uses. It will readily be appreciated that though this condition was expressed as a mutual obligation, it was a condition which bound India alone; for Pakistan does not supply any waters to India. This unilateral restriction was, however, accepted by the Government of India solely in the interest of a speedy settlement. It was not expected at that time that the work of the Working Party would take very long.

From May, 1952, till August, 1953, the engineers of the two sides, assisted by Engineers of the Bank, collected a vast amount of statistical and engineering data required for the preparation of the comprehensive plan. In September, 1953, the Working Party, equipped with this material, met in Washington and attempted for almost five months to prepare an agreed plan. These efforts met, however, with no success and on the 5th February, 1954, the Bank, finding that there was no prospect of further discussions proving fruitful, presented a proposal to the Working Party, which, in its view would produce a fair and economic result for both countries.

The substance of the Bank proposal was that—

(i) the waters of the three western rivers, namely the Indus, the Jhelum and the Chenab, should, except for such uses as are made of them in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, be assigned exclusively for the use of Pakistan, while the waters of the three eastern rivers, namely the Ravi, the Beas and the Sutlej, should be assigned exclusively for the use of India;

(ii) for a transitional period (of about five years) India would continue to give supplies to Pakistan canals taking off from the eastern rivers in accordance with an agreed schedule;

(iii) in proportion to the benefit to be received by India therefrom, India would pay for the cost of construction of link canals in Pakistan required to replace the supplies which India, under the new system, would divert for her own uses.

The Government of India gave detailed and anxious consideration to this proposal which fell far short of India's requirements and which, in addition, involved for them a considerable financial liability, the justification for which was not clear. They decided, however, to accept the Bank proposal primarily because they wished, in the interest of good relations with their neighbour, to take every opportunity that might present itself for the settlement of a dispute which had been in existence for many years. They accordingly communicated to the Bank their acceptance of the Proposal on March 22, 1954.

From the 5th of February till the middle of June, 1954, the Indian delegation waited in Washington in the hope of getting a clear answer from Pakistan as to whether they did or did not accept the Bank's proposal. When, even in spite of an appeal by the Bank, there was no positive response from Pakistan, the Government of India had no option but to come to the conclusion that further progress of the co-operative effort, undertaken with the assistance of the Bank, had become impossible and Pakistan had therefore voided the understanding under which the Working Party had been set up. They informed the Bank accordingly on the 21st June, 1954, from which date the Working Party, set up in 1952, was regarded as having come to an end. While declaring that the agreement of March 13, 1952, had been voided, the Government of India informed the Bank of their readiness to consider new arrangements for working out a Comprehensive Plan on the basis of the Bank Proposal as soon as Pakistan would agree to accept it. Although no longer bound now by the unilateral restriction agreed to in March 1952, the Government of India also offered to enter into an agreement for a transitional period which would enable developments to proceed in both countries on an agreed schedule, as envisaged in the Bank proposal.

Recently the Bank has made proposals to the two Governments for the commencement of fresh negotiations on the basis of the Bank proposal and has proposed new terms of reference. These proposals are at present under discussion between the Governments of India and Pakistan and the Bank. To facilitate these discussions, representatives of the Bank are expected to arrive in Delhi next week.

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## DISPLACED PERSONS (COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION) BILL

### PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava** (Gurgaon): Sir, I beg to present the report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the payment of compensation and rehabilitation grants to displaced persons and for matters connected therewith.

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## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

### REPORT ON CONTINUANCE OF PROTECTION TO HURRICANE LANTERN INDUSTRY AND MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY RESOLUTION

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951:

(i) Report of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Hurricane Lantern Industry; and

(ii) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Resolution No. 38 (I)TB/54, dated the 27th August, 1954.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-269/54.]

I shall find out, Sir, when the report was presented.

**Mr. Speaker:** I saw a copy of the report. I found that it was sent to the Government on the 20th April, 1954. The Act gives the Government three months' time, when Parliament is not in session, but it should be presented within seven days of the session, if the session is on. In any case, these papers are quite in time today. But I may invite the attention of the hon. Ministers to one fact: this item was given to me ten minutes past 8 o'clock today, and the result has been that I could not include this item in the agenda to be circulated to the Members. The effect has been, not that they are taken by surprise, but persons who do not know anything about it are not likely to pay attention to the fact that it is laid on the Table. It is better if the Ministers make it a point to inform the Lok Sabha Secretariat as to what they wish to place on the Table under a statutory obligation, at least a couple of days before so that the item may be included in the agenda and all Members of the House may have notice of it.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I appreciate the Chair's observations. I find that it was despatched yesterday. I will look into the matter as to why delay occurred in sending it in time to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Nothing was meant, of course.

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## UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES) BILL—*contd.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will proceed with the further consideration of the motion moved by the hon. Dr. Katju yesterday regarding the reference of the Untouchability (Offences) Bill to a Joint Select Committee. I need not read the motion. The amendments will also be considered along with the motion.

**Shri N. Somana** (Coorg): Yesterday, I was dealing with some of the provisions of this Bill and I was submitting to the House that this Bill does not go as far as the House would wish it to do. We would have been much enlightened if the hon. Minister, who is piloting this Bill, had taken some pains to lay before the House what exactly has been the effect of the legislations that were passed by the various States about six or seven years back and what effect those laws had on this scourge of untouchability in those States. We would also have been enlightened if the hon. Minister had furnished data as to how many prosecutions were actually conducted and with what results. I have no doubt that these Acts which are in vogue in various States are only dead letters and I submit that even this Bill when passed into an Act may also prove to be a dead letter. This is a legislation of the kind which would not be much in force because I feel that prosecutions under this Act will be very rare and even where offences are committed, prosecutions will be filed with great reluctance.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

I would like to ask one question. What exactly is the purpose of this Act? Is it merely to cause a threat?

I submit that in the working of this Act, there would be many difficulties. I would state a few illustrations which have happened in my own State and make my position very clear that these Acts would not serve the purpose for which they are intended. In the first place, in these prosecutions, even when offences are committed, it is very difficult to get proper evidence. We know that prosecution is launched against the so-called upper classes and witnesses will not be forthcoming. In the second place, there are many ways of avoiding prosecution in these cases. Take for instance the temple entry cases. In these cases, it very often happens that the members belonging to these unfortunate classes themselves fear to go to the temples. I have heard many instances where the people belonging to these classes themselves say that they are not prepared to enter into temples lest they should incur the displeasure of the gods, because an impression has already been created in their minds that they should not enter these temples, or lest they should incur the displeasure of the larger community among whom they would have to live and upon whom they would have to be dependent for their livelihood. My humble submission is that this legislation enabling these unfortunate classes to go to temples will not be of much use. Even so, is the case of entry into the hotels. I would like to state an instance which happened in my State. The story is as follows. Reports came to me when I was in my constituency last year that three members of this unfortunate community entered into a hotel and wanted to take coffee and some eatables. They were served with plantain leaves while others were served with plates. When they wanted coffee, they were first served in cocoanut shell. It is very painful that it has happened but it has happened.

**An Hon. Member:** In your State.

**Shri N. Somana:** It may have happened in my State. But, I have no doubt that worse things have happened in other States. This Act cannot provide a proper remedy; nor would the provisions in this Bill which would punish such cases. I would consider that there are worse offences than even refusal to allow entry into hotels. Take, for example, cases of temple entry. I have heard instances where, after these unfortunate brothers have entered the temple and gone back, the high priest goes and performs *shuddhi* and until then no puja takes place. These are some of the things that take place today. This Act certainly cannot even touch the fringe of the question. The question is so large; it is like an elephant and a flea bite of this Act cannot solve the question. Unless positive measures are taken to improve the economic conditions and social well-being of this community, nothing will help to take away the scourge of untouchability from our land.

Yesterday, a few friends were asking me, what concrete proposals I would make. I beg to submit a few proposals for the consideration of the honourable House. I have no doubt that if this Bill is to be sent for circulation, as I wish it to be, to many social organisations which are undertaking this work, and to social workers, many useful suggestions are bound to come forth and I have no doubt that the whole scheme of the Bill is bound to be altered in that way. I am making a few proposals which, probably, to the hon. Minister and some Members of the House may be startling and some of which may be found to be funny. However, I feel that it is my duty to place my views on this subject.

In the first place, I wish to say, as I was submitting, that it is essentially an economic question. Unless the economic problem is solved, the uplift of these unfortunate and down trodden classes can never be achieved. If we go by the population basis, we find that these unfortunate classes constitute about one-fifth of the total population of this country. I would go

[Shri N. Somana]

to the extent of saying that it must be enjoined upon the Central Government and also the State Governments to set apart one-fifth of the revenues for the uplift of these classes. It may be a very strange proposition, the hon. Minister may say so or some others may say so. But, a solution of this kind is absolutely necessary. One other proposal which I would like to make is of far reaching consequence. One of the things which we have noticed not merely in the towns, but also in the villages is that these unfortunate classes of people are not living among the so-called upper classes. They have their own excluded areas. In Madras, my hon. friends coming from Madras know, they are called Harijan *cheris*. Unfortunately, what has happened is neither the members of these upper classes would like to live among them nor are these unfortunate people prepared or allowed to live among the so-called higher classes of people. So, the law must make it compulsory. I would go to the extent even that the Government should declare a subsidy to those people of the upper classes who are prepared to go and build their houses in the midst of these unfortunate classes. And likewise, Government must also declare a subsidy to these unfortunate people who would like to live among the so-called upper classes. Not only that. It must be made necessary and compulsory that these unfortunate classes must be given land only in the midst of these upper classes. Probably in most of the States we find that these classes have been almost excluded and live a secluded life. It may be that the State Governments are giving certain amenities like drinking water and sanitary facilities, but we still find that these people are living in separate colonies specially built for them. I should think this must be discouraged, because unless we combine all the classes together there will not be any feeling of oneness among these communities, and unless we feel we are one and unless we feel that we are all of the same father and mother who are combined in God my humble submission is that we cannot certainly solve this problem. So, it is absolutely necessary that a law must be made to this effect.

I would go to the extent of saying that in the case of those temples which do not give entrance to these unfortunate classes, there must be a law to close them down. It may be rather drastic, but unless we take drastic measures, nothing can be done. We have got so many temples and unfortunately these temples breed class hatred and class distinctions. So, I feel that very drastic measures and positive measures must be taken in this connection.

I am not stating these things merely out of my own imagination, but there is ample provision in the Constitution itself. I may remind the hon. Members of the House of article 46 of the Constitution which reads as follows:

> "The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation".

So, my submission is that the State has got certainly ample powers to take measures for the amelioration of these people.

One of the things which is absolutely necessary and which probably the Government has not attended to so far is the reservation of a percentage of posts in Government services. It may appear somewhat odd because in Government services it is considered that merit should be the criterion. My humble submission is if we really want that these classes should come

forward to improve their condition, there must be specific reservations for these classes in all Government posts including the Central Government services. It is unfortunate that measures have not been taken to this effect, and it is time that we make specific provision in that regard.

**Shri Velayudhan** (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved--Sch. Castes): In the Bill?

**Shri N. Somana:** In the Bill also it can be provided. There would be no difficulty at all if we only change the tenor of the Bill.

The other point I would like to submit is with regard to the grant of land to these people. Of course it is stated, as it is found in the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, that State Governments are granting land, but my own enquiry in several parts of the country shows that so far, very few lands have been granted to these people, or very few people have actually taken possession because there is so much red-tapism and so much formality that these poor people are not able to get the land. Very often, the upper classes are putting forth all sorts of objections, and on flimsy grounds these applications are rejected. So, unless we take very stringent measures to grant lands and house sites to these persons, this problem will never be solved.

One other point which we have noticed is the case of eviction of these brethren from lands which takes place in several places. The Government must make a provision, a law, forbidding evictions of these persons who are owning lands, wherever they are. This is also a provision which must find a place in any law that has to be enacted by this House.

I would lastly urge, though it may appear to be somewhat curious, that the Government must make it a point to award honours to persons who spend their lives for the amelioration of these classes.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Titles?

**Shri N. Somana:** Of course, we have heard that though the titles are abolished, honours for distinguished services are being granted by the Government of India. I consider personally that there is nothing so great and so noble as the work for the amelioration of these downtrodden classes. So, my humble submission is that the honours of "Bharat Ratna" and "Padma Vibhushan" must be awarded to persons who spend their lives in working for the amelioration of these persons. Probably, we could even wait for awarding these titles to writers and scientists. An award of this kind should be given to workers of this kind, so that an atmosphere is created in the country that these people must be ameliorated and must be brought to the level of the other classes. So, these are some of the measures which the Government must undertake.

Some hon. Members may ask whether these can be combined in a bill of this kind. I say that it can be done. What we have to do is to change the title of the Bill. We should not only punish untouchability, but also make provision for amelioration and social welfare of the community. It can provide for such positive measures. So, my humble submission is that it is necessary that in this Bill we should provide for such ameliorative measures. Otherwise, the very object of this Bill will never be served. I therefore feel that this Bill must be circulated for public opinion and opinion must be gathered on what we should do and what changes this Bill should undergo. Sir, I beg to move that this Bill may be circulated for public opinion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Amendment moved:

> "That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st October, 1964".

[Mr. Chairman]

About twenty chits are already in my hand, and more are coming in. I find that many hon. Members are very anxious to speak on this Bill, though this Bill is according to our Home Minister, absolutely a non-controversial Bill; and I agree with him in this stlying of the Bill as non-controversial because the whole House is agreed on the principles of the Bill practically, it seems to me. Therefore, I am desirous that with a view to give as many Members as possible a chance to speak, the House may agree to rationing of time, and if the House agrees, I will fix the ordinary time for speeches as ten minutes.

**Some Hon. Members:** Five minutes.

**Shri Gadgil** (Poona Central): May I say, since this untouchability has been there for ages, a curse which has been there for so many decades according to the political parties, five minutes or ten minutes time will not be doing justice to the cause itself. I therefore humbly suggest it should be at least 15 minutes, and if you agree, more preference should be given to caste Hindus, because they have to do the penance.

**Shri S. S. More** (Sholapur): What is the time allowed for the consideration of this Bill?

**Mr. Chairman:** Let us not take time over the rationing of time.

**Shri S. S. More:** Before we go to the rationing of time, I think we must know what is the time allotted.

**Mr. Chairman:** So far as the time today is concerned, we will go on till 10-45 a.m. It is likely we may also spend some time on Monday. After all, this question may have been for ages before the country, but now only we are to see if this Bill has to be sent to the Select Committee. In the Select Committee, Members may, if they so choose, spend as much time as possible. Here we are only concerned with the broad question whether this Bill has to be referred to the Select Committee or not. Therefore, I should think that ten minutes is quite sufficient because many of the matters are absolutely non-controversial. If the House agrees.....

**Shri S. S. More:** May I bring to your notice that under our Rules of Procedure, as far as legislation is concerned, there is ordinarily no time limit?

**Mr. Chairman:** Therefore, I am asking the consent of the House.

**Shri S. S. More:** Just a minute please. I entirely support Mr. Gadgil in his view that it is not only introducing this measure that is relevant, but the pitfalls in the way of implementing it, as some of us who have worked in the rural areas realise, will have to be brought to the notice of the Select Committee. Therefore, some longer say, which will be a constructive say, must be allowed for them. This kind of hushing up and rushing up will not give them enough time.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास** (मंडला-जबलपुर—दक्षिण): सभापति जी, मैं तो चाहता हूं कि आप इसके लिये सोमवार और मंगलवार दो दिन दें, क्योंकि यहां पर जो कुछ होता है वह पढ़ा जाता है, उसका सारे देश पर असर पड़ता है। बहुत समय के बाद इतना अच्छा विधेयक यहां पर उपस्थित किया गया है और यदि उस पर पूरी बहस होकर लोगों के सामने वह बातें नहीं आयेंगी तो यह एक दुर्भाग्य की बात होगी।

**Mr. Chairman:** So far as I am concerned, I can only say that it will rest with Government as to how much time they propose to spend over it, or it rests with the House. If the House is so minded, I think we can give more time. But so far as the debate in the House is concerned, I wish that many Members may be able to take part. If I make the time fifteen minutes, then today only four or five Members will be able to take part, and similarly also on the other days, so that there will be general dissatisfaction. I want to give time to as many Members as I could possibly do.

So far as preference is concerned, I would also like that as many Members from the Scheduled Castes as possible may be able to speak, because this is a Bill which concerns them. I do not wish to say that I will give preference to caste Hindus or to Scheduled Castes people, it will depend on who catches the eye, but at the same time, if the House agrees, I propose that ten minutes may be regarded as sufficient ordinarily.

गृह-कार्य तथा राज्य मंत्री (डा० काटजू) : सभापति जी, मैं एक शब्द कह दूं। यह मामला बहुत ही अहम और महत्व का है और बहुत वक्त की जरूरत है तो मुमकिन है कि यह अच्छा हो कि आज जो प्राइवेट बिजनेस लिया जाना है उसको न ले कर ढाई घंटे में यही लिया जाय, वह प्राइवेट रेजूलेशन्स बाद में फिर कभी डिस्कस होते रहेंगे। यह मामला जैसा अभी हमारे भाई ने फरमाया हजारहा वर्ष से चला आता है और सेठ गोविन्द दास ने कहा कि जो शब्द यहां कहे जायेंगे उनका सारे देश पर भारी असर पड़ेगा, इसलिये बेहतर हो अगर हम प्राइवेट बिजनेस के ढाई घंटे इसके लिये ले लें और खूब सारी स्पीचेज हो जायं और फिर हमें ऐसा करने में कोई ऐतराज भी नहीं होना चाहिये क्योंकि इस वक्त जो बिल हमारे सामने पेश है वह आफिशयल बिजनेस नहीं है। किसी एक साहब के जिन्होंने कहा था कि इस विधेयक को राय आमा के वास्ते भेजा जाय, सब लोग इस बिल से मुत्तफिक हैं और चाहते हैं कि वह पास हो जाय। एक सलाह यह है कि अभी कमेटी को हुक्म दे दीजिये कि वह इस बिल पर दस दिन के अन्दर अपनी रिपोर्ट कर दे और रिपोर्ट हाउस में आने के बाद तीन दिन उस पर दफावार बहस कीजिये, इस बिल की कोई मुखालफत तो करेगा नहीं, काका गाडगिल साहब यह तो कहेंगे नहीं कि यह होना नहीं चाहिये ....

सेठ गोविन्द दास : आपको इस बिल के वास्ते बहुत बधाईयां दी जायेंगी।

डा० काटजू : ठीक है, एक भाई ताईद करेंगे, दूसरे उसकी मुकर्रर ताईद करेंगे और कोई तीसरे भाई सिकर्रर ताईद करेंगे, तो वह सब हो सकेगा। चूंकि सब समझते हैं कि मसला बहुत ही जरूरी है और इसमें ताईद और तारीफ की जरूरत है इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है कि आज आपके सामने जो प्राइवेट रेजूलेशन्स रक्खे हैं वह इस महत्व के नहीं हैं और समय की कमी है, कमी तो वाकई है चालीस बिल्स सामने हैं तो ऐसी हालत में मैं यही गुजारिश करूंगा कि आज के जो प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स रेजूलेशन्स हैं उनको मुल्तवी करके इसको ढाई घंटे और चलने दिया जाय और इस पर चर्चा होती रहे, और यह भी तो आखिर नान आफिशयल ही है, आफिशयल की इसमें क्या बात है, कोई गवर्नमेंट का तो है नहीं। आप भी राजी होंगे, कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी, प्रजा सोशलिस्ट पार्टी और दूसरी सभी पार्टीज और लोग इससे राजी होंगे और सभी चाहते हैं कि यह अनटचेबिलिटी हमारे देश से दूर हो जाय।

**Shri A. K. Gopalan** (Cannanore): I do not agree to that proposal.

पंडित एस० एन० मिश्र (मुंगेर उत्तर-पूर्व) : हमारे मंत्री जी चाहते हैं कि सदस्य लोग अपने प्राइवेट बिजनेस के टाईम में से मंत्री महोदय को इस बिल के वास्ते समय दें, हम लोग यह चंदा देने को तैयार हो सकते हैं लेकिन सवाल यह है कि इस सदन में जिस विधेयक पर जितनी बहस होती है, बाहर देश समझता है कि उसका उतना महत्व है और आप अगर देश के ध्यान को इस तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहते हैं तो मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करता हूं कि आप जितना समय और किसी विधेयक पर लगाते हैं, उससे कम इस पर न दीजिये। आप इस मंजर में सब का और जनता का सहयोग चाहते हैं तो वह सहयोग आपको सब से ज्यादा तब प्राप्त होगा जब आप इस बिल को इस सदन में उसी स्तर पर रक्खेंगे जैसे और दूसरे बड़े २ विधेयक रक्खे जाते हैं,

[पंडित एस० सी० मिश्र]

इस हालत में आपको सब से ज्यादा सहयोग प्राप्त होगा, हम लोग भी समय का चंदा देने को तैयार हैं मगर आप भी तो उसके लिये कुछ समय निकालिये और इसके लिये उसको दीजिये ।

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. So far as the question of time is concerned, the wishes of the House may be considered in the matter, and I think full time will be allowed for discussion in the House. But, whatever the amount of time allotted may be, it will not be possible that about thirty Members who have given chits may be able to speak on this Bill.

**Shri Velayudhan:** That is a different question altogether.

**Shri Damodara Menon** (Kozhikode): Many Members have not given chits at all.

**Mr. Chairman:** So, there may be about forty or fifty hon. Members who are desirous of speaking. How is it possible to accommodate all of them? What length of time is to be given to each hon. Member, so as to satisfy all these hon. Members who want to speak? Therefore it is that I am submitting this. If only new points have to be made, the matter can be finished within ten minutes. All the hon. Members are well-versed in speaking, and they can certainly concentrate what they have to say within ten minutes. I would, therefore, request the House to agree that ten minutes may be regarded ordinarily as sufficient. If that is acceptable, we will be able to accommodate as many Members as possible.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सभापति जी, प्रश्न यह नहीं हैं, प्रश्न दूसरा हैं ।

**Mr. Chairman:** I quite agree that in such cases, when a person has to make many points, he may take fifteen minutes. But about ten to fifteen minutes should ordinarily be the time taken by an hon. Member. Some may even take a lesser time than this.

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma** (Sikar): May I submit that some more time should be given?

**Mr. Chairman:** The extreme limit is fifteen minutes, and the ordinary limit is ten minutes.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : लेकिन सभापति जी, एक बात और हैं, इस समय के अतिरिक्त जो एक मांग हो रही हैं कि कम अज कम सोमवार और मंगलवार दो दिन का समय इस विधेयक के लिये दिया जाना चाहिये । इसलिये मेरा आप से निवेदन यह हैं कि डा० काटजू दो दिन इस विधेयक के लिये अपने आफिशयल बिजनेस में से दंवें ।

**Mr. Chairman:** I have already stated in the House that Government will certainly consider this aspect of the matter and give the House as much time as is possible for them to give.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** (Hoshiarpur): I beg to submit that the ruling which you have given just now, that the extreme limit for the discussion on this Bill for each hon. Member should be fifteen minutes and the ordinary limit should be ten minutes, should be applicable in the case of all Bills.

**Mr. Chairman:** That is not the point at issue here. We are not concerned with that question now.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Discrimination is to be shown here also. (*Interruption.*)

**Mr. Chairman:** So, I understand this is agreed to.

**Some Hon. Members:** No, no.

**Shri Veeraswamy** (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Chairman, I request you to allot at least one

and a half days for the discussion over this Bill, because this is an important measure, and several Members should be given at least some time each to express his views, so that when the Bill comes back to the House from the Select Committee, it may be in proper shape....

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. The House will give time to as many hon. Members as possible now, and such Members as do not speak now will be given opportunity to speak then. It is physically impossible to give so much time as to see that every Member may be able to speak.

**Shri K. K. Basu** (Diamond Harbour): The Select Committee must know the sense of the House.

**Shri Damodara Menon:** Regarding the point made by Shri Gadgil that preference should be given to caste Hindus to speak on this Bill, on the ground that they have to do an act of penance.....

**Mr. Chairman:** I have not accepted that suggestion...

**Shri Damodara Menon:** I am very glad.

**Mr. Chairman:**.....because under article 14 of the Constitution, there must be equality in all matters, and there should be no discrimination.

**Shri Damodara Menon:** I am very glad over it. But I want to know one thing from Shri Gadgil, whether making a speech is an act of penance....

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member need not argue the matter. I am not going to discriminate.

Let us now proceed with the discussion.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** I am very glad that for the first time, the hon. Home Minister has brought a Bill before this House, which is not harmful, and which on the face of it should be supported by all sections of people in this House. In the course of his speech yesterday, the hon. Home Minister admitted that this Bill should have been brought before, but it was very late. I do not know why it has been brought so late, why it took seven years for Government to bring in a Bill at least of this kind. But the hon. Home Minister did not forget to bring in the Preventive Detention (Amendment) Bill, the Press (Objectionable Matter) Amendment Bill, the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, and such other bills. All these bills could be brought forward before this House earlier, but only so far as the removal of untouchability is concerned....

**Dr. Katju:** They were brought earlier, because those matters were most urgent and pressing.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** It is because there was no pressing and urgent necessity that the social disabilities of these communities should be redressed, that this Bill was not brought forward earlier. Yes, I quite agree with you. That shows that Government are not very serious about the matter, and even after this Bill has been brought forward, they do not understand that this is a very urgent matter.

There are certain sections of people in this country who are not only untouchables; I want to make the hon. Minister understand that in my part of the country, there are also 'unseeables'. There is even 'pollution' if any person sees them. Yet he says that the matter is not very urgent. That was the reason why the Bill was not brought forward much earlier!

I am basing what I have to say on the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Mr. Shrikant. There is every reason to believe what is stated there in the introduction:

> "Experience has, however, shown that in spite of repeated and urgent reminders, it has not been possible for the State Gov-

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

ernments to furnish me with the required and sufficient data in time for inclusion in the Report. Moreover, it is found that at times the information furnished by the State Governments is very sketchy and incomplete, and it being already too late, no time is left to obtain further details from them".

So what does it show? It shows that State Governments, even in spite of urgent reminders, do not furnish reports about them. They were either not able to give reports or there were no reports with them. They had not done anything in the matter. So as far as the seriousness of this question is concerned, neither the Central Government nor the State Governments are serious about it. Even the Bill that is brought forward, as you said, is noncontroversial. What does the Bill say? The Bill says that it is an offence to practise untouchability, and those who practise untouchability must be punished. As far as that is concerned, nobody will object. But the question is: is there any guarantee that the provisions of this Bill will be implemented? It is said here that if certain sections of the people, if people of this community, go to the temples or to the hotels or other places and if the owners do not allow them, the latter must be punished. But the most important thing is: will these people go to the temples and to the shops in the present conditions? They will not be able to go there because, as I shall show by means of instances, even when the things were brought to the notice of Government, action was not taken. On the 30th June, 1954, I wrote a letter to the Collector of Malabar, a copy of which is with me. On 10th May, 1954, one member of this community, Appayi, sent an application stating that when he was going to the field for ploughing, some officers entered the field and took him. He was taken to the police station and was severely beaten. A petition was sent to me with the signature of some other persons. I wrote to the Collector of Malabar and after one month a reply was sent to me saying that it was a fact that something had happened, but that the man could go to a court of law. But that man will never be able to go to a court of law because he is a poor man, an agricultural labourer. He has to work from morn till evening to earn something and he has no money to go to a court of law.

There was another petition which was also regarding some untouchables who were beaten by some people in the same locality. I have got copies of those statements here. I wrote to the District Superintendent of Police, Malabar, saying: "I am enclosing herewith a petition dated 24th February 1954 from one Palakkal Pachu of Etakkat amsam, Puthiayangadi desom of Koshikode Taluk, Malabar District". This man was severely beaten and he was admitted into the hospital. I wrote to the District Superintendent of Police that some action should be taken and the reply I got was that on further inquiry, it was found that there was nothing—even though the man was lying in the hospital after being severely beaten. On 23rd March, 1954, I wrote another letter to the Collector of Malabar enclosing petitions in original addressed to me by 14 Harijans of Yakare amsam of Palghat Taluk, and by one T. N. Venkataraman of Ezhakat amsam of Palghat Taluk. These petitions also related to discriminatory treatment of Harijans.

I am only pointing out some of the petitions; these are only a few of the many petitions sent to the District Superintendent of Police and the Collector of Malabar or to other authorities. What we see is that often the reply is that such a thing has not happened or that they must go to a court of law.

10 A.M.

One important matter I want to point out here. It is that in a village

in Palghat Taluk in Malabar, a Harijan was severely beaten by the landlord, the Kollengode Raja. He was so severly beaten, and a Communist M.L.A. of the place went there to inquire about it. He found that several big people in the village had been implicated in that. There was a meeting held where a thousand people had gathered. They wired to the Collector. The Collector came to the place and when he went to inquire about the man who was severely beaten, he said that he was not beaten at all and all the agitation was false. This man was living on the land of the local people, landlords and others who were very influential. His plot of land belonged to the Raja. They came and told him what would happen to him, and when the inquiry was started he blindly said that there was absolutely nothing, nobody beat him and all the agitation and other things were false! We find these things happening even today when such a Bill is brought forward. It is true that the Bill says that practice of untouchability is an offence and those who practice untouchability must be punished. But I want to ask whether after passing this Bill there is any guarantee that this will be implemented. In this connection, I want to refer to some other Acts. We had been here some eight months back and we passed the Industrial Disputes Bill. What is the effect of that? The Industrial Disputes Act had been passed. Yet there are several instances pertaining to Kerala where factory owners, when they retrench workers, do not even care to pay the lay-off. So the Act is openly flouted. Whether it is the Industrial Disputes Act or the Factories Act, or the Untouchability (Offences) Act when it is passed by Parliament, it is certainly seen that a big section of the people do not obey it. Yesterday, the Home Minister in his speech said: why should it not be obeyed? The law must be obeyed. He said:

> "The laws of the land are intended to be obeyed till they are altered by Parliament or by proper legislative process. And if the laws of the land are not obeyed, then it is not a matter of mollycoddling and trying to tell the people 'do not do it'. You are punished".

It is very correct. But I want to ask the Home Minister whether it is done. It was not done when the State Government had been informed that a certain factory owner had been retrenching workers and violating the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. When the Central Government had been approached about it, they said that it was a State subject and they had nothing to do with it. There are not only one case or two cases but many cases where the Acts had been violated and when it had been brought to the notice of the Government 'here is a clear violation of the Act', nothing had been done.

So the first thing is that I doubt whether the provisions of this Bill, when it is passed will be implemented because those who are to implement the provisions of the Bill are themselves those who do not want to implement them. They will be under the influence of the landlords or the policemen or others who do not want to implement it, and they will be coercing persons.

The next point I want to bring forward is this. According to the Report of Mr. Shrikant, what is the position of the untouchables today? The Report clearly shows that even today in the rural areas untouchability is rampant. There are cases even in Delhi which had been pointed out in the Report. I shall read out some of them. On page 77 the Report says:

> "It is worth noticing that in spite of the fact that the problem of untouchability is of a great magnitude, the number of cases reported to the police and filed in the courts against the practice of this evil in the country is

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comparatively very small. The reason for this, apparently, is that the Scheduled Caste people are too much dependent on their better placed brethren and often do not dare to go to the police or the courts of law for the redress of their grievances.

"Information collected from the State Governments shows that there has been no appreciable improvement with regard to the practice of untouchability. As mentioned in Section III of this Report, during the tours undertaken in the year, also I noticed that untouchability was being practised in a number of States. In Madras, it was reported that at Gopalapuram in Anakupalli taluk of Vizagapatam district, Harijans were not allowed to take water from even Government wells. Again, in that very district a marriage procession of Scheduled Castes, with umbrellas and shoes on, was intercepted and beaten at village Sankaram. The worst case reported in Madras was from the village of Tiruneelakudi in Kumbakonam taluk of Tanjore district where the Scheduled Caste people were not being allowed access to the local post office and a letter box had been hung at the street corner for their use."

"In Hyderabad also....

**Mr. Chairman:** Thirteen minutes are over. He can have two more minutes.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** I have only just begun.

**Mr. Chairman:** Fifteen minutes were fixed as the maximum.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** "In Hyderabad also, cases of the practice of untouchability, particularly relating to refusal to draw water from common wells, were reported"

**Not only that.**

"Then there are quite a large number of cases which occur practically every day and go unreported. It will be interesting to mention here of a case which occurred right in the compound of the Resident Magistrate of New Delhi, whose office is situated just next to the New Delhi Police Station on the Parliament Street leading from Connaught Place to the Central Secretariat. It is alleged that when a few Schedulded Caste people took water from a *piao* inside the court compound, the Clerk of the Court of the Resident Magistrate, a Constable and a Head Constable abused them and made them pay the cost of utensils which were supposed to have been polluted by their touch. The final result of the enquiries made in this case is still awaited".

Sir, there is no time and I do not want to point out other things. These are the things that appear in the report, a report written by somebody who is not against Government. From the report itself it is seen how untouchability is practised in this country, what are the social disabilities prevalent even today in this country and the drastic form in which it is seen in many parts of the country.

Because there is no time I want only to point out something and not to explain it. As far as the jobs and services are concerned, it is also mentioned here in this report that there are certain posts that are shown as being reserved. Here it is said:—

"The tendency of Government Departments to fill a large number of vacancies by promotions and transfers, to which reservation orders do not apply, should be discouraged, as it is done at the expense of direct recruitment quota."

At another place, it is said:—

"I am rather anxious about the representation of Scheduled Tribe candidates in various grades of the Central Secretariat Service. At present, their representation in that service is nil. The various Reorganisation Schemes have covered only the existing employees of the Central Secretariat and, therefore, not a single Scheduled Tribe person has been appointed in any of the grades of the Central Secretariat Service."

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Subba Rao, he will deliver his speech in Telugu.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Sir, there was an abrupt end of Mr. Gopanlan's speech. If speeches end like that, I think, there is no use of discussion on the Bill.

**Mr. Chairman:** I have not caught the remark of the hon. Member. Does he mean to suggest that Shri Gopalan's speech ought not to have been stopped?

**Shri Velayudhan:** There was an abrupt end to his speech. He had only read a report. In the same manner, if others are going to be stopped in the middle of their speeches, I think, there is no use of discussing this Bill at all.

**Mr. Chairman:** I do not quite understand what the remarks of the hon. Member are. Does he object to the stopping of the hon. Member's speech in the middle? It is his own choice.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I have not made my point understood. My point is...

**Mr. Chairman:** If he has not made himself understood or if he does not understand the House cannot help him. Mr. Subba Rao.

**Shri P. Subba Rao** (Nowrangpur) rose—

**Mr. Chairman:** Why does this hon. Member rise? I have already called another hon. Member.

**Shri P. Subba Rao:** I am also Subba Rao.

**Mr. Chairman:** I have called Shri Subba Rao will speak in Telugu.

**Shri S. S. More:** He is prepared to speak in Telugu, Sir.

**Shri K. S. Rao** (Eluru—Reserved—Sch. Castes): [*Spoke in Telugu*]

(*The following is the English version of the speech.*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill with the view that it should be strictly enforced. Many of our national leaders under the leadership of Gandhiji started the social reform of eradicating the evil of untouchability from our society. They began this movement with good intentions and carried on zealously for some time. Before the Congress Party came into power they used the movement as one of the main planks of their struggle to come into power. Alas, their self-sacrifice and zeal, all their sincerity in this social reform died down with their coming into power. Though the Congress Governments have been in power since 1937 in many of the States, they failed to carry out the mission of their leader. Gandhiji, that is, the removal of untouchability.

I have carefully gone through the present Bill and I do not find anything new in this Bill. The similar Acts passed by almost all the States have been in force for a pretty long time and what is the experience we gained from those legislations? Practically no change worth the name has been brought by these Acts. Therefore, I have no belief that this Bill, if passed into law, will do anything better than those State laws. This piece of legislation will also meet the same fate.

Why I want to say this is that there is nothing radical or revolutionary in the Bill. It appears to me as a calculated eye-wash just to hoodwink the Harijan population in this country.

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because the experience we gained by the State Acts is so glaring and clear cut that the evil of untouchability cannot be removed from our society by simply passing the same type of legislation without enforcing the provisions of such legislation.

As for example, the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities Act has been in force for the last sixteen years. But what are the changes it could bring in this aspect of social reform? The untouchables in the State of Madras and Andhra and other States too are helpless in asserting their civil rights. Because the laws passed by the State Governments have become dead letters as they were not enforced effectively. Not only that, the Governments have failed to create an opportunity or an atmosphere in which the untouchables could assert their rights in the society. For the untouchables to assert their rights boldly two things are required. One is that they must be made self-conscious of their rights by providing proper education and another thing that they must be made economically indenpendent of the so-called caste Hindus. As in other fields of governmental activities the Congress Government even after the attainment of independence miserably failed in this social reform because of its unwillingness to carry out the problem sincerely and wholeheartedly.

So much so the untouchables could not avail of the provision of the removal of disabilities Act in Madras State. The Government machinery which was expected to implement the provisions of the law has rather sabotaged it because of the pressure from the influential caste Hindus in the villages and towns. As for example, Harijans in villages are not allowed to draw water from the public wells and tanks and are not allowed to enter into public places like temples, hotels etc. The Government knew it fully well. When the Harijans attempt to assert their rights in entering the public places the caste Hindus, with the connivance of the police department, foist other kinds of cases on the Harijans and also beat them and terrorise them to submission. When such things are going on, the Congress Governments are keeping quiet and sometimes the Government also support the caste Hindus. In my town where there are nearly one lakh population, the Harijans are not allowed to offer their 'nivedyam' to the deity along with the caste Hindus. To remedy this injustice, the Government has not taken any action. At another place, namely, Chintalapudi taluk in my constituency Harijans entered the temple premises while puja was being offered to the deity. The caste Hindus beat the Harijans and also foisted cases against them. The Harijans were forced to leave the village. There also the Harijans are helpless. Under such circumstances, no protection was given to the Harijans by the Government. These are not the only isolated instances. Almost in every village in Andhra, the same state of conditions are obtaining when the Harijans begin to assert their civil rights.

Even in the institutions run by the Governments, the Harijans are treated as untouchables. For example, in the Central Jail at Rajahmundry, the Harijans are treated as untouchables and they are assigned the job of a scavenger even though the convict is a fairly educated person. This I am telling out of my own experience in that jail. This was brought to the notice of the authorities. But no change has been effected in treating the Harijans in that jail.

Even the temple entry movement started by the Congress Governments in Madras and Andhra states has become a farce. The Minister or some big Congress leaders lead some Harijans members into temples in a ceremonial way, and they go away. On the next day, the temples are purified by the chanting of the *mantras* by the priests and then the Harijans are not allowed.

It is an accepted truth that the untouchables cannot assert their rights and come up to the level of other caste Hindus in the society unless their economic position is improved. But what the Congress Governments are doing? As we know fully well that almost all Harijans are living as agricultural workers. Therefore, their standard of living can be increased if they are provided with land and other facilities. But what the Congress Governments are doing. In my State the lands reclaimed and brought under cultivation by the Harijans when the Britishers were ruling this country, were forcibly taken away from the Harijans by the Congress Governments, on the plea that those lands should be given to the so called Congress political sufferers. If the Government themselves are hindering the progress of the Harijans, I really wonder how the abolition of untouchability under such circumstances can take place.

The few facilities provided in the matter of education and services are not properly implemented by the authorities concerned. As for example, there are Harijan hostels in some of the States, but they are not adequate. The admissions are not given to all the students. Thousands of Harijan boys and girls are denied this opportunity. The existing hostels are mismanaged by the managements to gain their own ends at the cost of the students

The services provided to the Harijans are not really benefiting them, as an adequate number of them are not placed in responsible position.

Therefore I suggest that there should be provisions in the Bill to carry out some concrete programme for eradicating untouchability.

It is common knowledge that when a group of people are living in one place their social contacts will increase and there will be much scope for forgetting the differences of high and low. This can be done in villages if the Harijans are allowed to live in the same locality. For this, house sites must be acquired by the Government and some financial assistance also has to be given so that the Harijans have some decent living quarters.

Some incentives have to be provided for inter caste marriages. This can be achieved if the bride or the bridegroom or their parents are offered some monetary help and other facilities like providing lands, jobs and educational facilities. There must be sufficient protection to the people who marry outside their castes

There must be provision in the Bill for a separate department for implementing the provision of this Act. For this purpose some statutory boards have to be created in each and every *tuluka, firka* etc.

**Shri T. S. A. Chettiar** (Tiruppur): Sir, this is a non-controversial Bill, but at the same time, I believe, it requires a great deal of thought. This Bill is not new. Almost all the State Governments have passed Bills on these lines. The Schedule attached to this Bill gives the list of such Acts that have been passed, but it will be seen that there is one important difference between all those Acts and this particular Bill. It is, that, whereas all those Acts are confined to the Harijan Community, or that class of people—I do not like to use that word, but it has been used in the Constitution and used in this Bill also—who are called untouchables within the Hindu community, this Bill has a wider scope. If I may give an example, this Madras Act XI of 1938 is for removal of civil disabilities among a certain class of Hindus and in the Act you find the word 'Harijan' used. In the same way almost all the other Acts passed by the State Legislatures refer almost entirely to the Harijan community. In many of the Acts which refer to entry in temples, there the name 'Harijan' itself is found, like 'The Bombay Harijan Temple Entry Act of 1947', 'The Orissa Temple Entry Authorisation Act', 'The Hyderabad Harijan Temple Entry Regulation' etc.

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Even where in certain cases, like The Mysore Temple Entry Authorisation Act, the name 'Harijan' is not found, in the title of the Act itself, reference is made in the Act that it covers only the Harijans belonging to the Hindu community. This Bill is a departure from all those Acts, in this that it refers to Harijans of all communities. It is well known that Mohamedanism does not recognise untouchability. In the Christian religion there are people who are considered untouchables and even in the churches we find that certain seats are reserved for Harijans and certain seats are reserved for high class people and the untouchables or Harijans of that community cannot occupy those seats which are reserved for the high class people. There also, inter-marriage and other social customs among the Christian community are largely followed on the pattern of the Hindu community. Therefore, Sir, I agree—and I think it is a good thing—that this Bill seeks to enlarge the scope of the Acts already obtaining in the various States and it is applicable to all untouchables or Harijans—I should not say 'Harijans' because non-Hindu untouchables should not be called Harijans; they will take it as an offence. Now, that word 'Harijan' is meant to cover all untouchables of different communities, or we have to fall back upon this word 'untouchables' however much we may dislike it, because that is the word that must be applied to those people who do not come under the Hindu community. To that extent, it is very well and we welcome this Bill.

There is another important matter to which I would like to refer. I think there has been some sort of loose wording which must be corrected. It is regarding the 'place of public worship' as defined in clause 2(d) which says:

> "'place of public worship' means a place, by whatever name known, which is used as a place of public religious worship or which is dedicated generally to or is used generally by persons of any religious denomination or any section thereof for the performance of any religious service or for offering prayers therein;..."

The operating section is clause 3 which reads as follows:

> "Every place of public workshop shall be open to every untouchable for worship and for the performance of any religious service or for offering prayers therein in the same manner and to the same extent as it is open to any other person belonging to the same religious denomination..."

By the words 'religious denomination' it is meant that a Christian Harijan is entitled to go into any church belonging to any religious denomination to the extent to which any other Christian is entitled to go. In the same way a Hindu Harijan is entitled to go to any public temple to the same extent as any other Hindu. But, the clause continues to say—which I think may create some trouble—that:

> "...in the same manner and to the same extent as it is open to any other person belonging to the same religious denomination or to the same section thereof....."

There, Sir, I would like to have some clarification in the matter. Suppose there is a temple which belongs to a section of the community, as it exists in my part of the country, where there is a section of the community called 'Naidus' who have got certain temples belonging to them which are called *Kuladaivams*—I do not know what they call it in Hindi. These are small deities worshipped in temples where nobody else go except the people belonging to that particular section. May I know whether this term 'religious denomination' will cover all the people belonging to the Hindu community but who do not belong to that particular section to visit such temples? This is something over which you may think and take a decision on the matter. The intention may be—and

quite rightly also—that any place of worship among the Hindus may be thrown open to every other person belonging to the Hindu community. If that is so, these words 'section thereof' is something which, I think, may make some mischief, and we should therefore think over the matter and give the widest scope to the Bill.

In the same way there is another class of temples which I would like to point out for your consideration. There are certain temples built by private individuals. I know of a gentleman whose grandfather built a temple and today it is within his compound but it is worshipped by the public though it is proprietary. I think, Sir, that we should make it clear as to what a public temple means. If a public temple means a temple which is visited by a large number of public though it is owned and maintained by a private individual, I think we should take care to define it so. But, if it belongs to a certain individual or family and is still worshipped by the public, and it is our intention to exclude such temples from the scope of this Bill, then it is open to us to make that exclusion. I should think that if for a large number of years if any temple, owned privately or publicly, has been made use of as a place of worship by a large number of public, such a temple should be thrown open to all classes of Hindus. Therefore, in order to avoid references to law courts in this matter, I should think that, we should make the definition of 'temple' very clear so that there will not be any dispute over this matter.

One other point I would like to mention is with reference to clause 8(2)(b), which reads as follows:

> "Votes at a meeting of such community, class or section in favour of a decision regarding the ex-communication of, or imposition of any other social disability on, such person."

This also refers to clause (c) in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, where it is clearly put:

> "Whoever takes any part in the ex-communication of, or imposition of any social disability on, any person who refuses to practise untouchability or does any act in furtherance of the objects of this new law will also be guilty of an offence;"

I should prefer the wording in clause (c) of the Statement of Objects and Reasons to what is contained in clause 8(2)(b) of the Bill, because votes at a meeting may not be taken at all and ex-communication may result from the general sense of the meeting. In many cases I know that votes are never taken and so the words "votes at a meeting" will create mischief. I should think the words "whoever takes any part in the ex-communication of" have a wider connotation.

One more point and I do not like to take more time of the House. I agree that any social legislation mainly depends for its success on the support and convictions of the various communities in the country and it will be infructuous and ineffective if it is not followed by such conviction. Mr. Gopalan remarked that social legislations are not enforced here. Knowing as I do the history of the last twenty years, I can say from actual experience that we have made a big progress in this direction. Harijans today are feeling that they are protected and that they can exercise their rights in a large measure. In out-of-the-way villages and corners of the country there may be some people who may not feel that they are exercising their rights, but I can say that today they are conscious of their rights and they also feel that their rights are protected, and that they can assert their rights. Many of the provisions which are made today about entering hotels, restaurants, etc., are already obtaining in a large measure in the country and this Bill does not confer anything new. Today, I think there is an amount of social compulsion or social

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conviction for this Act and it is in time. So, it can be passed and it should be passed at this moment.

I should also like to reinforce one point that was raised by my friend, Mr. Somana. These legislations are effective only to the extent to which amelioration can be brought to these downtrodden classes. It is a good sign of the times that the Government have set apart large sums of money for the amelioration of these classes. I believe that the amounts that have been set apart are really large and sufficient for the purpose, because many of the scholarships are being given to members of the Scheduled Castes at the present day. Therefore, along with this social legislation, along with the carrying forward of the conviction of all the communities of our people, it must also be accompanied by acts of amelioration, which are already being done.

**Shri N. Rachiah** (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I wholeheartedly welcome this piece of legislation and this is the first time in the Parliament that a social legislation of this type is going to be placed on the statute book of our country. While welcoming this Bill, I must be very grateful to Gandhiji who sacrificed his life for the emancipation of the masses, particularly the Harijans or the Scheduled Castes of India. As Mr. Somana said, we are more than one-fifth of the population in this country, and yet it is so unfortunate and so sorrowful to see that for thousands of years these human beings were degraded to the lowest strata of society where even animals have got a better place than these human beings.

Our Constitution, the sacred document of our democracy, assures equal opportunities, justice and liberty to all its citizens and articles 15 17, 25, 29, 38 and 46 aim at securing equal justice, social, economic and political Can we say that in this country there is any social justice? I can tolerate any inequality but not social inequality, because social equality is the basis or foundation for the rapid progress of any country or any individual. The canker of untouchability, which has been banned by article 17 of the Constitution, has devoured millions or crores of our people, who have given their lives without seeing what life is.

Crores of our people have been subjected to this type of tuberculosis. As we all know, the disease, tuberculosis, eats away the body. So, this tuberculosis of untouchability will eat away the country if allowed any longer. Now, we talk of oneness, we talk of democracy. We see that Government have not provided large sums of money in the Five Year Plan and in the next Five Year Plan for the emancipation of these people. Gandhiji, who sacrified his life for the cause of the Scheduled Castes, said in the year 1933 when the resolution was passed in Bombay with regard to temple entry:

> "It was the last September that leading Hindus claiming to represent the whole of Hindu India met together and unanimously passed a resolution condemning untouchability and pledging themselves to abolish it by law, if possible even during the existing regime, and failing that, when India had a Parliament of her own."

This is a great day that this Parliament, which is the true representative of more than 36 crores of the people of India, is going to pass this Bill and I am sure that this is a landmark in the Indian society which seeks to consolidate and unify the Indian society and also gives salvation to more than 80 million people in the country. In this connection, I am reminded of the struggle that was going on between Patricians and Plebeians in the Roman society. Till that struggle ended, the Romans could not build a Roman empire. India cannot be great till caste Hindus and Harijans end their struggle. The Patricians could be compared to the caste Hindus here

and we, the Harijans, have been like the Plebians in the Hindu society. Our leaders talk of oneness, but where is it? Even in the hostels, schools and colleges, this is not to be found, and communal divisions are there. Cannot the Government abolish the communal institutions, *mutts*, etc., in the interest of democracy and in the name of a Welfare State? I am sure democracy cannot survive in India if these institutions are allowed to go on in this way.

We, the Harijans, are in favour of a peaceful, constitutional rapid revolution, both social and economic. The social revolution cannot be achieved without the economic revolution, and the economic revolution cannot be achieved without the social revolution; both are closely knit together, and I do know that they are inseparable. Many Members say that the economic revolution must be given first priority, but Government do not grant at least lands to Harijans. If the Government do recognise the acute problems, of Harijans let them at least give them land—at least the remaining land now available and which has been lying there for the last thousands of years. There has been no dearth of land lying waste in the country. At least now, can the Government make a Central legislation that all the remaining Government waste-land, whether forest or non-forest areas, that could be cultivated, be given to the Harijans? They are reluctant. I cannot but agree with what Shri Shrikant Scheduled Caste Commissioner has said, namely, the emancipation of Harijans can be achieved only if there is honest effort on the part of the people and the Government. Not only that. I do not think that a Harijan can now get even a *chaprasi's* post, ordinarily. What is the meaning of reservation of certain posts in services, if the Central Government order or a State Government order is not given effect to? In Mysore, the Central Government's order was received regarding reservation of posts in services for Harijans. But there is no Harijan representative in the Public Service Commission there, though the Harijans were more than one-sixth of the population in Mysore. The Public Service Commission there is composed of caste-Hindus. They delayed (the Government of Mysore) the implementation of the order for two years within which period they appointed all caste-Hindus in vacant places where the Harijans should have been appointed. According to the order, the Harijans were to be given 22 per cent. of the posts. So, for another 20 years, Harijans are not going to get any job, because they have already over recruited the non-Harijans in filling the posts. The same thing is going on elsewhere. If this is the position, we do not want this concession. We do not want any of these concessions whatsoever, if this is the position. Still, if they are interested in democracy, if they are interested in the welfare State, let them do it properly. We want the proper thing to be done. Gandhiji said that the practice of untouchability was repugnant to the reason, love and the spirit of mercy. Was it not a fact? He said once 'if I were to be re-born—I want to be re-born as an untouchable, to share all their sorrows and pleasures and also the impediments to which they are subject to.' Is it not a great statement, Sir? Mr. Shrikant, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has said as follows in his report:

> "The progress made in this direction at the moment is still very slow, though I realise that complete eradication of this evil will take a little time on account of the deep-rooted prejudices—deeper than the ones against the Negroes in America—of old customs and habits prevailing in the Country."

He concludes with what an American wrote:

> "The whole commerce between slave and master is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions, the most unremitting despotism on one part and degrading submissions on the other."

[Shri N. Rachiah]

That is, ours is a degrading submission which we do not tolerate. The other part is only despotism according to the quotation made by Mr. Shrikant. It is not according to anybody: I am referring to his own report. I must be very grateful to Mr. Shrikant who has been very bold and sympathetic and who is really the disciple of Gandhiji. He has made out his report very clearly in the interests of the emancipation of these backward classes, particularly the Harijans. I am sure the Government is not giving attention to this. If they are really honest in their opinion, let them appoint a commission or a board or a committee to investigate the working of the schemes for Harijans welfare *i.e.*, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. They do not want to do so. They want to wait till the Backward Classes Commission's report is submitted. Why should it be so? There must be a separate Board for certain years at least during which period the reservation and special amenities as provided under the Constitution for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes.

**An Hon. Member:** A separate Ministry?

**Shri N. Rachiah:** With regard to the temples, I should like to mention this: wherever the Ministers go, to the temple or such other places, why should they not have a programme for taking Harijans also along with them? I am sure, however, that this canker, this demon of untouchability is going to be rooted out of the country. I am sure of this because all the Harijans are awakened today. But still, the Government and the people as a whole—whether caste Hindus, or non-Hindus—should co-operate together; particularly the legislators and the leaders.

Regarding social disability, I should say that if any officer disobeys or does not give effect to the enacted laws even after it is passed, there must be a provision in the Bill that that officer should be summarily dismissed, because it is not the masses that are against the Harijans; it is not all caste-Hindus that are really against them; it is only certain people who want to make capital out of this situation, and it is the officers—99 per cent. of the officers are against the Harijans, and they are in the hands of the so-called people who have an anti-social attitude and are prejudiced against the Harijans—who are the cause for this untouchability. I think it is desirable on the part of Government—whether State or the Centre—to take action against such officers who are mainly responsible for executing the Act according to their own discretion; while interpreting the law they do not want to give any amenity or give effect to the orders of Government because they give the plea that the caste Hindus are objecting to grant land etc. to the Harijans. If that is the case, if that is the attitude of the officers, I am only sorry that we cannot achieve anything.

Lastly, the tempo of propaganda for driving out untouchability from every nook and corner of India should be accelerated by the non-official agencies. With regard to the non-official agencies also, Government should give liberal grants and at the same time they should instruct them and see whether they are doing their work properly. Mere granting of land does not help us. A sum of Rs. 200,000 was given to the Mysore State, but they lapsed by more than Rs. 80,000 still. Is that the way the work should be proceeded with? Central Government have been spending crores of rupees on refugees. Thousands of appointments have been given to the refugees. They have given lots of land to the refugees. Well, we do not grudge this. They must be rehabilitated. We are very grateful to the Government for doing so much to the refugees. But what about the backward classes? They were displaced about 2,000 years ago. What is the work that the Government are doing in regard to these people. Mere passing of a law would

not help them. With regard to social disability and the removal of social evils, there must be sanction of the law. Without the sanction of law, no custom, no usage, no convention, could be eradicated. This piece of legislation, I am sure, is going to consolidate and unify all the sub-compartments of Hinduism, because on this basis, the entire Hindu community could be unified: and until this untouchability is removed, Hinduism cannot survive. With the abolition of untouchability there must be total prohibition of cow-slaughter, because cow-slaughter is almost synonymous with untouchability. So, Government should understand this thing: there must be very, experienced Members on the Boards or the Committees to to be appointed,—whether they are caste-Hindus or non-Hindus or Harijans should not be the basis. There must be such Boards, and I emphasise very strongly and repeatedly that there must be a Central Board to assist the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the Home Ministry in the work of amelioration of these unfortunate 80 million people in the country.

**Mr. Chairman:** It is 10;45. Let us take up Private Members' Business.

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## MOTION *RE*: TENTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

**Mr. Chairman:** The motion is tabled by Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan. I would request her to make her motion.

**Shri Raghunath Singh** (Benares Distt.—Central): My amendment is there.

**Mr. Chairman:** It will come in course of time.

**Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan** (Dindigul): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Tenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 26th August, 1954."

**Mr. Chairman:** The Report has already been circulated to hon. Members. The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Tenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 26th August, 1954."

*The motion was adopted.*

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## RESOLUTION *RE*: RESERVATION OF PRODUCTION OF ALL *SAREES* AND *DHOTIES* FOR HANDLOOM INDUSTRIES—*Contd.*

**Mr. Chairman:** The House will now resume discussion on the Resolution regarding reservation of the production of *sarees* and *dhoties* for the handloom industry moved by Shri Sivamurthi Swami on the 30th April, 1954. The mover spoke for 22 minutes and concluded his speech.

Shri Raghunath Singh moved his amendment to the Resolution but did not conclude his speech when the House adjourned.

Out of two hours allotted for the discussion of the Resolution, one hour and thirty-eight minutes are left for the further discussion of the Resolution.

Shri Raghunath Singh may continue his speech and thereafter I shall place the amendment before the House.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह** (जिला बनारस मध्य) : चेयरमैन साहब, शिवमूर्ति स्वामी जी ने जो प्रस्ताव इस सदन में रखा है इसको अगर आंकड़ों की दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो वह प्रस्ताव स्वीकार करने योग्य नहीं मालूम होगा । मैं इसका कारण देना चाहता हूं । आपका कहना है कि जितनी धोतियों और साड़ियों की इस देश में आवश्यकता होती है वे सब हाथ करघों द्वारा उत्पादित हों । आप आंकड़ों से देखेंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान की आबादी

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

२५,६८,२६,४८५ हैं । इसमें मेल आबादी करीब १८ करोड़ हैं और फीमेल आबादी १७ करोड़ हैं । अगर यह माना जाये कि एक पुरुष को साल में २ धोतियों की आवश्यकता होगी और इसी तरह से एक स्त्री को साल में २ साड़ियों की आवश्यकता हो तो हमको साल में स्त्रियों के लिए ५२ करोड़ और पुरुषों के लिए ५४ करोड़ साड़ियों और धोतियों की आवश्यकता होगी । अगर हम पांच गज की धोती या साड़ी मान लें तो हमें हिन्दुस्तान में स्त्रियों के लिए साल में दो अरब ५० करोड़ गज धोती का कपड़ा चाहिये और पुरुषों के लिए २ अरब ७४ करोड़ गज कपड़ा। इस प्रकार आप देखें कि स्त्री पुरुष दोनों को मिलाकर करीब पांच अरब २५ करोड़ गज धोती की आवश्यकता हिन्दुस्तान में हर साल होगी । यह तब होगा जब कि हम हर स्त्री और हर पुरुष को साल में तीन धोतियां या साड़ियां दें । अर्थात् एक अरब आठ करोड़ धोतियों की हमको हर साल आवश्यकता हैं । अगर हम आंकड़ों को देखें तो उनसे यह जाहिर होगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में कुल २८ लाख हैंडलूम हैं । इन २८ लाख करघों में ५० लाख आदमी इस वक्त काम करते हैं । इसका अर्थ यह हुआ कि एक करघे पर दो आदमी काम करते हैं । अगर हम यह मान लें कि एक करघे में रोज पांच गज कपड़ा तैयार होता हैं, जो कि मैक्सिमम हैं तब भी एक करघे से साल में ३०० धोतियां तैयार हो सकती हैं । इसका परिणाम यह होगा कि हम साल में इन करघों से ८६ करोड़ धोतियों बना सकेंगे । लेकिन हमको आवश्यकता हैं एक अरब धोतियों की । २८ लाख करघों में से बहुतों में रेशम और टसर बुनी जाती हैं । यदि हम इन चीजों का बुनना बिल्कुल बन्द कर दें तो हमको ८६ करोड़ धोतियां मिल सकती हैं । मैं आपको अपने यहां की मिसाल देता हूं । बनारस में करीब ६० हजार करघे हैं लेकिन आपको एक लूम भी ऐसा नहीं मिलेगा जो कि सिल्क के अतिरिक्त और चीजों को बनाता हो । अगर हम मान लें कि ये २८ लाख करघे केवल धोती और साड़ी ही बनावेंगे तो साल में ये ८६ करोड़ धोतियां तैयार कर सकते हैं लेकिन हमें हिन्दुस्तान में करीब एक अरब धोतियों की हर साल आवश्यकता होती हैं । इस प्रकार इन आंकड़ों को देखने से यह साफ जाहिर होता हैं कि जो प्रस्ताव हमारे सामने हैं वह असम्भव हैं ।

अब आप मिलों को देखें तो भारतीय मिलों में कुल दो लाख लूम हैं । इन दो लाख लूम्स में इतना ज्यादा उत्पादन होता हैं कि हम एक्सपोर्ट भी करते हैं । आज से तीन वर्ष पहले हम और ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट करते थे आज हमारा एक्सपोर्ट कम हो गया हैं । अगर हम इस पर विचार करें तो हम इस नतीजे पर पहुंचेंगे कि यह प्रस्ताव इम्प्रैक्टिकेबिल होने के साथ साथ अनइकानामिकल भी हैं । इन २८ लाख हैंडलूम्स में ५० लाख आदमी काम करते हैं अर्थात् एक लूम पर दो आदमी काम करते हैं । अगर हम यह भी मान लें कि एक करघे से पांच गज कपड़ा रोज बन सकता हैं तो हम पायेंगे कि इन दो आदमियों को साढ़े बारह आना रोज मिलेगा, अर्थात् एक आदमी को सवा छः आना, क्योंकि करघे की बुनाई का दाम दो पैसा से लेकर ढाई आना गज तक मिलता हैं । आप समझ सकते हैं कि इतनी कम आमदनी में बुनने वाले की घर-गृहस्थी का काम कैसे चल सकता हैं ।

**पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी** (सारन दक्षिण) : कहीं कहीं तो दो पैसा भी नहीं मिलता हैं ।

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह** : तो वहां और भी ज्यादा दिक्कत हैं । आप देखें कि जो बनारसी साड़ी बनाने वाला आदमी हैं वह अपने हैंडलूम से कम से कम एक दिन में डेढ़ रुपया पैदा कर लेता हैं ।

**श्री नंदलाल शर्मा** (सीकर) : बनारसी साड़ी पहनने वाले आदमी कितने हैं ?

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : आप जैसे आदमी पीताम्बर पहनते हैं और औरतें साड़ी पहनती हैं । हम यह नहीं चाहते कि हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री रहे ही नहीं । लेकिन हम यह चाहते हैं कि हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री का उपयोग इस प्रकार से हो कि जो ५० लाख आदमी इसमें काम करने वाले हैं उनको अधिक से अधिक आमदनी हो । तो जैसा मैं ने आपको बताया कि बनारस और मऊ दो स्थान ऐसे हैं कि जहां रेशम बुना जाता है । वहां बनारसी साड़ियां और इस तरह की चीजें बनती हैं । वहां वाले लोग करीब एक रुपया या डेढ़ रुपया फी आदमी के हिसाब से पैसा कर लेते हैं । मेरे कहने का अर्थ यह है कि हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को सूती वस्त्र पर ज्यादा जोर नहीं देना चाहिए बल्कि इसके द्वारा फाइन चीजें जैसे साड़ियां, दुपट्टों पीताम्बरों आदि का उत्पादन कराना चाहिए जिससे लोगों को ज्यादा आमदनी हो ।

साथ ही साथ आप देखेंगे कि लड़ाई के समय में हमको मिल का कपड़ा बहुत कम प्राप्त होता था । उस समय सारे हैंडलूम काम करते थे लेकिन हमारी आवश्यकता को पूरा नहीं कर पाते थे । इस वास्ते मेरा यह कहना है कि यह प्रस्ताव इंप्रैक्टिकैबिल है और मैं इस दृष्टि से यह अपील करता हूं कि यदि प्रस्ताव ठीक मान लिया जायेगा तो हिन्दुस्तान के ७ १/२ करोड़ आदमियों को धोती प्राप्त नहीं हो सकेगी और वे नंगे रहेंगे ।

**Mr. Chairman:** Amendment moved.

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

> "This House is of opinion that with a view to encourage and develop handloom industry and root out the prevailing unemployment among the weavers, specially of the rural areas, the production of silken cloth, bedsheet, towels and all *Sarees* and *Dhoties* up to 30 counts should be reserved for the said industry."

Now I have received notice of four other amendments to this Resolution. According to rules only the motion which was received in time could be allowed. Since the Session has expired and these notices have been subsequently received, I am inclined to waive of notice. I will allow the amendments to be moved. I will just now enquire whether the hon. Members propose to move the amendments standing in their names. I find that Shri Rajabhoj and Shri D. C. Sharma had given notice of their amendments but they are not in their seats.

**Shri Borgawat** (Ahmednagar South): I beg to move:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

> "This House is of opinion that in order to protect the Handloom Industry, the production of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of forty counts and below should be reserved for the Handloom Industry."

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd** (Kurnool): I beg to move:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

> "This House is of opinion that manufacture of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of all counts below 60 be exclusively reserved for Handloom Industry and the mills contravening this provision be dealt with severely."

**Mr. Chairman:** Amendment moved:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

> "This House is of opinion that in order to protect the Handloom Industry, the production of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of forty counts and below should be reserved for the Handloom Industry."

I shall also place the other amendment before the House. Amendment moved:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

> "This House is of opinion that manufacture of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of all counts below 60 be ex-

[Mr. Chairman.]

clusively reserved for Handloom Industry and the mills contravening this provision be dealt with severely."

Now, the Resolution and the three amendments are before the House for discussion.

**पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी :** मिस्टर चेयरमैन, मुझे बहुत ताज्जुब हुआ जब हमारे माननीय दोस्त श्री रघुनाथ सिंह ने कहा कि हैंडलूम के जरिये सिर्फ बारह आने पैसे रोज मिला करेंगे और इसलिये रेजूलेशन अनप्रैक्टिकेबुल हैं। दूसरे ग्राउन्ड्स पर भले ही वह कहते तो कोई उज् नहीं होता लेकिन जिस देश में लाखों आदमी बेरोजगार हैं, लाखों औरतों को काम नहीं हैं वहां दस आने और बारह आने कौन कहे, चार, छ आने के पैसे भी मिल जाया करें तो हमारी जो यह बेकारी की समस्या हैं, वह बहुत दूर तक हल हो सकती हैं।

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** Women are not weavers.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Women are spinners; they spin and they also aid. शायद आप को मालूम नहीं हैं कि जिन जुलाहों के घर में करघा चलता हैं, वहां उनकी औरतें और बच्चे भी उनकी मदद किया करते हैं और इस तरह से उनका काम आगे बढ़ता हैं और अधिक आमदनी होती हैं और उस आमदनी में उनके बच्चे और उनकी स्त्रियों का भी हिस्सा होता हैं। अभी आप एम्पलायमेंट एक्सचेंज के आंकड़ों को देखेंगे तो मालूम होगा कि देश में अनएम्पलायमेंट की समस्या हल होने के बदले दिन प्रति दिन भयंकर रूप धारण करती जा रही हैं। मैं इस पक्ष में नहीं हूं कि सारी मिलों को बंद कर दिया जाये और कपड़े का उत्पादन कम किया जाये। लेकिन सम्भव हो सकता हैं कि हम अपने कपड़े जैसे गांधी जी कहा करते थे, खाना और कपड़ा हर मनुष्य को बनाना चाहिये और उसे पहिनना चाहिये बना सकें। इस तरह से यदि गवर्नमेंट चाहे तो इस देश में मिल के कपड़े के बदले हैंडलूम का कपड़ा चल सकता हैं लेकिन बराबर गवर्नमेंट की यह परिपाटी रही हैं और रवैया हैं कि हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को इतना प्रोत्साहन न दिया जाये, इसलिये नहीं कि इच्छा की कमी हैं, लेकिन एक बोगी हैं कि हमारे देश में कपड़ों की कमी हो जायेगी और लोग बिना कपड़े के रहेंगे या यह डर हैं कि कपड़ा बहुत मंहगा हो जायेगा। यद्यपि खादी का कपड़ा सबसे मंहगा पड़ता हैं लेकिन उसका भी एक एकोनामिक संदेश हैं। अगर देश में हर एक मनुष्य खादी का कपड़ा तैयार करने लग जाये तो उसके दाम कम हो जायेंगे चूंकि आइडिल टाइम्स में कपड़ा बना लेते हैं। श्री रघुनाथ सिंह का जवाब देने के बाद अब मैं इस प्रस्ताव पर आता हूं।

1 A.M.

इस संसद् की तीसरी बैठक में मैंने एक प्रस्ताव इसी किस्म का दिया था, दुर्भाग्य से वह हाउस के सामने न आ सका। गवर्नमेंट ने एक कदम उठाया कि मिल वालों को हिदायत दी कि वह अपने प्रोडक्शन का सिर्फ साठ परसेंट धोती और साड़ी बना सकते हैं। वह एक स्टेप फारवर्ड हुआ, पर देश के कुछ अंशों में जैसे बंगाल, बिहार या और जगहों से भी वहां की स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने इसका विरोध किया। मिलों ने इसकी अवहेलना की। गवर्नमेंट को बाध्य होकर उनको सजा न दे कर कुछ जुर्माना करना पड़ा या उस पर कुछ टैक्स लगाना पड़ा। हमको देश की परिस्थिति को देखना होगा, भले ही सिद्धान्ततः हम चाहें बहुत कुछ लेकिन हमें वस्तुस्थिति को देख कर चलना हैं। मैं श्री शिवमूर्त्ति स्वामी से कहूंगा कि मैं उनके साथ हूं, धोती और साड़ी ही नहीं मैं चाहता हूं कि सारा कपड़ा देश में हैंडलूम से बने, बल्कि चर्खे और करघे से उत्पादन किया जाये, लेकिन आज जो देश की स्थिति हैं, उसमें शायद हम ऐसा नहीं कर सकते और इस रेजूलेशन के पास होने के बाद यह संसद् जोकि हमारे देश की सबसे बड़ा (हाएस्ट) बाड़ी हैं, इसकी मूर्ति होनी चाहिये, हम उसको कर नहीं

सकते । ऐसा प्रस्ताव हमें पास नहीं करना चाहिये जिसकी रक्षा हम न कर सकें, इसलिये हम----ऑन दी ग्राउन्ड्स आफ प्रेक्टिकेबिलिटी आज उसको काम में ला नहीं सकते हैं, इसलिये इस रेजूलेशन को प्रेस करना जरूरी नहीं है । हां, हमने इस रेजूलेशन पर बहस करके गवर्नमेंट का ध्यान आकर्षित करके बतलाया कि यदि हम चाहें और धीरे २ चलें तो कुछ दिनों के बाद हम ऐसा कर सकते हैं । गवर्नमेंट एक काम और भी कर सकती है जैसे कि किसी एक इलाके को ले लें और वहां पर बैन लगा दें कि वहां पर और कोई कपड़ा न जाये और देखा जाये कि वहां हैंडलूम के कपड़े को कितना फायदा और कितना घाटा होता है, या वहां के उत्पादन से हमारा काम चल सकता है या नहीं चल सकता है, ऐसा एक्सपेरीमेंट किया जा सकता है, लेकिन आज मैं इस प्रस्ताव से सहमत होते हुए भी समझता हूं कि समूचे धोती और साड़ी के उत्पादन को बन्द कर देना उचित नहीं होगा । हमारी कुछ समय हुआ कामर्स एन्ड इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्टर से इस सम्बन्ध में बातें हुई थीं और उन्होंने हमें बतलाया था और दिखलाया था कि बिहार गवर्नमेंट की यह रिपोर्ट है, बंगाल गवर्नमेंट की यह रिपोर्ट है, सारी गवर्नमेंटें इस प्रस्ताव के खिलाफ हैं, इसलिये भी यह जरूरी नहीं कि इस प्रस्ताव को हम पास करें । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का स्पिरिट में समर्थन करते हुए प्रेक्टिकेबिलिटी के ग्राउन्ड्स पर विरोध करता हूं ।

**Shri Bogawat:** I am thankful to you for allowing me an opportunity. In my constituency there are thousands of weavers. I know the conditions of these weavers very well. I am very much interested in this problem and I can put before the House the conditions of these weavers who are very much affected. In the year 1952, there was a slump and the conditions of the weavers were very pitiable and therefore, Government intended to take some measures and the following measures were taken by the Government to consolidate their position. The first was the constitution of an All India Handloom Board with comprehensive powers; the second was the levy of an additional excise duty on mill-made cloth; the third was the appointment of the Textile Enquiry Committee and the fourth was the enforcement of certain interim measures directed towards ensuring assured markets for the products of the handloom industry. In spite of these measures the condition of the weavers has not improved because there is keen competition and they are not able to compete with the mill-made cloth. When lakhs of people of our country are concerned and when they are not able to maintain their families, it is the first duty of the Government to give much attention to their conditions. There is no encouragement for the production of *khadi* and also handloom cloth because not much attention is given to this industry. I think it is quite essential to put some restraint on the production of cloth by the textile industry.

**Shri Veeraswamy** (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Chairman, there is no quorum in the House.

**Mr. Chairman:** There is no quorum. The bell may be rung.

The hon. Member may now resume his speech.

**Shri Bogawat:** There is no question of costs here . The crucial question is of saving all these families from not being able to maintain themselves. So the Government should not care for the costs. Even if the country is required to pay more cost for the handloom cloth, the Government should not mind. We must see that these lakhs of people consisting of weavers are able to maintain themselves and their families.

It is therefore quite necessary that yarn up to the count of forty must be allowed only to the weavers, and

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only yarn above forty counts should be used in the textile mills.

If that is not done I do not think we will be able to improve the conditions of these weavers and the poor people. Therefore, in order to see that the conditions of the weavers are improved, the resolution brought forward by Shri Sivamurthi Swami is very essential. And if he accepts my amendment it will be all right.

I do not want to speak much on this, because at the time the question of levy of cess on cloth came up before the House we put all these points. If he accepts my amendment, so far so good. Otherwise I may withdraw it.

**सेठ अचल सिंह** (जिला आगरा---पश्चिम) : सभापति महोदय, यह प्रस्ताव हाउस के सामने है कि जो धोतियां और साड़ियां बनें वह सिर्फ हैंडलूम से बनें, मिल्स से न बनें । जैसा मेरे साथी श्री रघुनाथ सिंह ने यहां पेश किया उस से यह साबित होता है कि अगर इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार कर लिया जायेगा तो हमारे देश के वास्ते साड़ियों और धोतियों की बहुत कमी हो जायेगी । वैसे तो गवर्नमेन्ट ने खुद तय कर दिया है कि ६० प्रतिशत और ४० प्रतिशत के रेशियो से धोतियां और साड़ियां हों, लेकिन उस का अभी हम ने नतीजा देखा नहीं है कि उस का क्या फल होगा आया धोतियों और साड़ियों की कमी महसूस होगी या नहीं । गो इस वक्त हमारे देश में कहीं कमी नहीं है, लेकिन इस प्रस्ताव को पास करने से यह होगा कि कोई मिल धोती और साड़ी नहीं बना सकेगी, सिर्फ कर्धे ही बना सकेंगे । इस से हालत अच्छी नहीं होगी, बल्कि उन का दाम बढ़ेगा और लोगों को कपड़े की दिक्कत होगी । इस लिये मेरी यह राय है कि यह प्रस्ताव पास न किया जाये स्थिति जैसी है वैसी ही चलने दी जाये ।

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Lakhs of weavers are suffering in the country. I am glad to say that Government has allotted about Rs. 5 crores for giving temporary relief to these weavers. But unfortunately the Central Government has no machinery through which it can implement its schemes. Therefore most of the amount is being wasted by the State Governments. This amount, according to the declared policy of the Government, reaches only the weavers who are in the co-operative field. The unfortunate weavers who are outside the field of co-operative societies do not get even a single pie out of these relief measures.

Even this full amount does not reach the weavers in the co-operative field, as most of the amount is wasted by the weavers' societies for administrative purposes. I will just point out how money is wasted in the Yemmiganur Weavers' Society which is advertised by Government as a model society in the country. This Society, I may say, was under the administration formerly of the Co-operative Department of Madras State and is now under the administration of the Co-operative Department of Andhra State. I will read a letter addressed by me to the Collector of Kurnool which will give an idea as to how the money is being wasted in this particular Society. The letter reads thus:

> "I am a Member of the Yemmiganur Weavers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society Ltd. I am reliably informed that the affairs of the Society are very bad and that since its President is an influential man, even the co-operative Departmental Officers are afraid of pointing out irregularities, and if any unfortunate dutiful Auditor does not approve any item of expenditure, either he is transferred immediately or directed by the higher officers to approve those items of expenditure. The following are very few of many such instances I have come to know. I therefore request you to kindly instruct the Deputy Registrar of Co-opera-

tive Societies, Kurnool under Section 38 of the Madras Co-operative Societies Act to enquire into the affairs of the Society:

1. Society's funds are misused for payment of superfluous establishment.
2. Large amounts are spent for purchasing medical stores for which no account is maintained.
3. Large amounts are being paid to quacks and doctors without particulars regarding treatment of members.
4. Large amounts are being spent illegally in arranging receptions to the high officials by creating some function or the other. (Laying of foundation stones have been repeated to create some function for visits of the high officials).
5. Conditions of loan taken from the Government are not observed: (a) Previous estimates are not prepared by the Engineering Department; (b) Instalment of loan due to Government has not been paid; (c) The Public Works Department has not supervised the construction to find out if everything is being done according to data; (d) National Savings Certificates which were meant for Reserves were encashed without previous approval of the Registrar and used for routine work.
6. Members who have been allotted buildings under the Colony Scheme are not told how much their homes will cost.
7. Initial deposits and monthly instalments due from members are not collected according to rules or bylaws.
8. This is a Primary Society but has opened branches not only in the State but also in other States, and thus usurped the functions of the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society.
9. Several items of building materials were loaned to its President against rules.
10. In making payments of instalments of loan due to the Co-operative Central Bank, Book adjustments are made by taking hand loans from the Yemmiganur Town Bank and from the Yemmiganur Co-operative Stores. (The President of the Society is also President of the Town Bank and his friend is the President of this Co-operative Stores).
11. Loans are overdue to the Financing Bank.
12. About Rs. 2 lakhs of the expenditure of the Society was kept under suspense by an Auditor, but he was directed by the higher authorities to release most of the items objected.
13. There were bogus looms in the Society which were cancelled by the Revenue authorities but subsequently restored by the Departmental officials. Report of the then Tahsildar will give more details of the working of this Society."

On this letter, the Collector was pleased to instruct the concerned authorities to hold an enquiry under section 38 of the State law. But, unfortunately, because he happens to be a very influential man, that order has not been implemented though it is a statutory order. Now that he has been awarded Padma Vibhushan III class, I am afraid the enquiry will not be held and the authorities will be more afraid of him.

I may also say that favouritism is going on in implementing these schemes. I know, from a village about 135 weavers applied for relief according to one of the schemes for paying share capital to a society. Their

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request has been put in the waste paper basket. The matter is pending for the last six months. I have also received two letters from a place called Gudur. They are in Telgue saying that they requested the starting of a weavers' society and that the matter has been kept pending for the last 2½ years. It seems that a society on communal basis has been formed there, that is for Kurnies. These weavers consist of all communities, Kurnies, Saleyans, Padam Saleys, Muslims, Kurubas, Boyas, Vaddeys...

**Shri B. S. Murthy** (Eluru): What about Harijans?

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Including Harijans also.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Mention that, please.

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Unfortunately, a society for Kurnies has been formed and other weavers have been deprived of this benefit. These weavers have been requesting the Government to register a separate society for them, but unfortunately, for 2½ years now, their request has not been cared for. Therefore, though the Government is spending about Rs. 5 crores, this amount is not at all reaching the weavers. I suggest that *dhoties* and *sarees* must be reserved for these weavers. I feel that we should not be unfair to the textile mill owners who have invested many crores in this industry. Therefore, I would suggest that all *dhoties* and *sarees* from 20s to 60s should be exclusively reserved for this handloom industry. Therefore, I have moved this amendment.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** In our country, cottage industries which gave food to lakhs and crores of people have disappeared altogether because of the unhealthy attitude of the Government towards cottage industries and also because of the large-scale and mechanised industries. Mechanised industry is the root cause for the destruction of cottage industries in our villages. Our Ministers, including the Prime Minister of India, have been saying in season and out of season that the Government have been helping the cottage industries. But, in the villages, we see the people are starving because they have to depend only upon the seasonal occupation of the agricultural industry. When there is no agricultural work, they are without any work and the result is, they are starving for want of food. Decentralisation of industries is very important so that all parts of the country can be benefitted industrially. Nowadays we see that only in the towns and big cities the industries are located, especially the mechanised and highly advanced industries, thereby impoverishing the village people. Now, our Government are very much interested in rationalising big industries. Rationalisation means replacement of old machinery by new ones, reducing the number of workers in the factories, accelerating production in the factories to effect a fall in prices. These are the things which persuade the Government to rationalise industries. If the old machines are replaced and the number of workers is reduced, it is the people who suffer. The capitalists will grow fat and they will amass lakhs and crores of rupees. But, the workers will be thrown out of employment and the result will be suffering of a large section of the poor masses. It is high time now for the Government to consider very seriously this question. They should stop rationalisation of industries and also they must effect decentralisation of industries by distributing them throughout the country.

With regard to the handloom industry, I wish to point out to the House that about 10 million people, that is about one crore of people are living on this industry, that is more than 50 per cent. of the people employed in all cottage industries and four times the people engaged in the factory industries. Many of the Members of this House have been demanding from the Government reservation of pro-

duction of *dhoties* and *sarees* for the handloom industry. What is the objection that the Government can advance for refusing to reserve the production of *sarees* and *dhoties* for the handloom industry? Our *Ex*-Chief Minister of Madras Shri Rajagopalachari tried his best to get permission from the Central Government for reserving the entire production of *sarees* and *dhoties* to handloom weavers, but he failed because of the attitude of the Central Government. In the Madras State, lakhs of handloom weavers have been suffering, their families have been broken and they are wandering about in the State. I have brought this to the notice of the House several times. But the Government are not serious about solving the problem of weavers in the South. It is said that the handloom industry cannot produce *dhoties* and *sarees* to satisfy the requirements of the country. I can tell you that in the Madras State, the handloom industry is producing more than what is required by the people. If they are given an impetus by reserving the production of all kinds of *sarees* and *dhoties* to the handloom industry, it will not only satisfy the requirements of the country, but also help the Government to export to large quantity of *sarees* and *dhoties* to other countries as well. Our country needs about 2,000 million yards of *dhoties* and *sarees*. The mills supply about 1,400 to 1,700 million yards. The handloom industry is allowed to supply only 600 million yards because the handloom industry is not encouraged and the people are not given facilities. So far as the Madras State is concerned, the North Indian mills have been exploiting the South. I want to tell the House how. That is, we produce the yarn and the yarn is exported to the North Indian mills, and the yarn that we produce and export to the North Indian mills comes back to our part in the form of finished goods, and our money is exported to the North, and our people, our weavers in the South, as our hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry only too well knows and better than myself, have been suffering a lot on account of this arrangement—*i.e.*, production of yarn in the South and export to the North and then receiving it back in the form of finished goods in the South.

I want to make certain suggestions. Textile mills should be prohibited from producing any type of *sarees* and *dhoties*, whether striped, coloured or bordered, whether silk or cotton—at least *sarees* and *dhoties*. Then it is certain that our handloom weavers throughout the country will thrive. And then, foreign markets should be found for the sale of handloom goods.

I would also like to suggest that a plant should be set up at every important centre to produce fly cotton. If fly cotton is produced in important centres, for instance in Madras State in Aruppukkottai-Sattur area, Salem and Trichinopoly areas, the weavers will be greatly benefitted because the fly cotton will be supplied on the spot, because they need not be waiting for the fly cotton to come from distant places.

I also suggest to the hon. Commerce and Industry Minister that the Government should come forward to purchase the surplus handloom cloth from the weavers and find out markets for their sale. If these things are done, I am sure the handloom industry can thrive.

I may refer here to what Mr. D. R. Gadgil says in his book "Industrial Evolution of India". He says that the handloom industry can reach a high-water mark of excellence if the Government helps that industry in all possible ways. And Mr. Cunningham says in his book "Industrial Revolution" that "the handloom industry is already doomed and the powerloom industry will drive out of existence the dying handloom industry.". I request the hon. Minister to take a serious note of this and see that the handloom industry is saved from being destroyed by the mill industry.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

**Shri Raghavachari** (Penukonda): I rise to support the resolution given notice of by my friend Mr. Sivamurthy Swamy.

Well, it is a matter that has been engaging the attention of this nation not today, but over years, and particularly its reactions on employment and unemployment. If the Government is planning to create more employment, by this resolution will be judged whether their intentions are serious or whether it is more a matter of propaganda. I personally feel that this matter of the reservation of particular spheres of production to handloom and prevention of the same being manufactured in the mills is essentially a problem that has not been handled properly throughout.

Well, I have had occasion once to refer to it at another time, but still I would state that at the beginning of the self-government when Shri T. Prakasam was the Chief Minister and he did not want any more spindles to be introduced and mills for spinning to be introduced in this country, the Industries Minister, Shri C. Rajagopalachari from the Centre and all the newspapers of the South did so much propaganda that without increasing the spindles it would be impossible that this country could exist, and the result was that they forced thousands of spindles to be installed in the South and then, when Shri C. Rajagopalachari later happened to be the Chief Minister of Madras, he found almost one-fifth of the South Indians were in danger of being thrown out of employment; so he began the agitation that the reservation for *sarees* and *dhoties* must be made. This reservation has been there for the past one year and a half or so, and I thank the hon. Commerce and Industries Minister for that, but our experience during the past one year and a half has been that it has not been possible to enforce this reservation from the Centre. And now, the prohibition is being worked out this way, each and every mill that transgresses this reservation is simply taxed a little more by way of cess. That is how I think it is being done. And the consequences is the production is still going on, and the unemployment of the handloom weavers is there. And my district is one where the handloom weavers are the biggest part of the community, almost every Taluk headquarter having three to four thousand looms and almost every village living by this handloom industry, both woollen and cotton.

I wholeheartedly support the resolution and request the Government to give serious attention to the need for such reservation. The question of practical difficulties naturally arise as to how the prohibition should be enforced—whether it should be bordered or unbordered, the breadth and the length. All these things are difficulties in practical working, but if a limit is fixed by counts up to 40, I for one should think that the mills will not suffer and the handloom industry will be benefitted. If at least *sarees* and *dhoties* up to 40 counts and below are prohibited from being produced—it is mostly consumed in the local markets and people use them—that will be the best way of helping the weavers and solving this unemployment problem. Therefore, I have given my support to this resolution.

**श्री इब्राहीम** (रांची—उत्तर-पूर्व) : मैं चूंकि उसी वीवर कम्यूनिटी से ताल्लुक रखता हूं, इसलिये मुझे इसके बारे में मालूम है और आज हुकूमत ने जो कुछ हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को दिया है उसका क्या नतीजा हुआ है यह भी मालूम है। अभी सेस फंड का रुपया हैंडलूम के वास्ते दिया जा रहा है, वह भी नाकाफी है। मैं जहां जाता हूं वहां वही हालत पाता हूं जो पहले थी। मिलमालिकों के पास इतने साधन हैं उनके पास इतने फंड हैं, ७५ करोड़ का उनके पास फंड है, आप समझ सकते हैं कि उस रुपये

से वह क्या नहीं कर सकते हैं, उनका प्रोपैगन्डा होता हैं, पबलिसिटी होती हैं, वह अपने रुपये के जोर से जो काम नहीं हो सकता हैं, उसको भी वह करा सकते हैं इसलिये जो इस रेज़ूलेशन में हैं कि धोतियों और साड़ियों का रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिये यह बहुत जरूरी हैं, अगर यह नहीं हुआ तो वीवर्स कभी अपनी हालत को नहीं सुधार सकते हैं। बात यह हैं कि आपको मालूम हैं कि कुछ रोज पहले इन वीवरों पर कितनी मुसीबत आई और मैं यह जानता हूं कि बहुत से ऐसे वीवर्स हैं जो काम कर सकते थे वह आज आसाम के टी गार्डन्स् में और दूसरी जगह जाकर कारखानों में काम कर रहे हैं उन्होंने अपने पेशे को छोड़ दिया हैं, इसकी वजह यह हैं कि उनका काम चलता नहीं हैं और मिल वाला कपड़ा इतना बाजार में आ जाता हैं कि हैंडलूम के कपड़े को कोई नहीं पूछता। आपको मालूम होगा कि दस नम्बर और १२ नम्बर का जो काउंट हैं वह इस तरह से बिकता हैं कि मालूम यह होता हैं कि वह हैंडलूम का बना हुआ हैं, बाजार में लोग धोखा खा जाते हैं और उसको हैंडलूम का समझ कर लोग खरीदते हैं। मिलवालों से हैंडलूम का कंपिटीशन बड़ा मुश्किल हैं, हैंडलूम कम्पीट नहीं कर सकता हैं। इसके अलावा होता यह हैं कि मिलवाले जो सूत पैदा करते हैं उसमें से अच्छा सूत तो अपने वास्ते रख लेते हैं और जो खराब होता हैं वह वीवरों के पास जाता हैं। वह हैंडलूम इन्डस्ट्री को चला जाता हैं। अब उन को तो अपनी मिलों में सस्ता पड़ता हैं लेकिन विलेज पहुंचते पहुंचते उस सूत का दाम बहुत बढ़ जाता हैं। वह लोग कैसे मिलों के साथ कम्पिटीशन कर सकते हैं। वह किसी सूरत से भी कम्पिटीशन नहीं कर सकते इसलिये कि मिल वालों के पास ऐसे साधन हैं, उन के पास आदमी हैं और वह अपने धन के जोर में समझते हैं कि हम कानून से बच सकते हैं। वह यह समझते हैं कि हुकूमत की मैशीनरी भी हम पर कानून लागू नहीं कर सकती इसलिये कि वह कानून को टाल सकते हैं। इस लिये मेरा यह ख्याल हैं कि धोतियों और साड़ियों के बारे में जो रिजर्वेशन हुआ हैं पर्सेन्टेज का, कि मिल वाले कितनी बनायें और हैंडलूम वाले कितनी बनायें, उस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि प्लैनिंग कमिशन ने यह किया कि एक टार्गेट रक्खा। लेकिन उस टार्गेट से भी ज्यादा उन्होंने पैदा किया, लेकिन हुकूमत ने कुछ नहीं किया। इसलिये कि उन के पास ऐसे साधन हैं कि कुछ नहीं किया जा सकता। इसलिये जरूरी हैं कि धोतियों और साड़ियों के वास्ते रिजर्वेशन किया जाये। जब यह रिजर्वेशन होगा तभी यह इन्डस्ट्री तरक्की कर सकती हैं, वरना नहीं कर सकेगी।

मिल वाले जो धोती ज्यादा पैदा कर लेते हैं उस के वास्ते हुकूमत ने कुछ दिन हुए उन पर एडिशनल एक्साइज ड्यूटी लगाई हैं। इस के माने क्या हुए ? वह समझते हैं कि अगर हम लोग ज्यादा पैदा कर लेंगे तो हम को कुछ करना नहीं होगा। सिर्फ एडिशनल एक्साइज ड्यूटी देने से ही बच जायेंगे। हुकूमत को भी कुछ ज्यादा पैसा मिल जायेगा और उन का काम निकल जायेगा। मिल वाले पैसे की परवाह नहीं करते, लेकिन सवाल यहां पर यह हैं कि इस धन्धे से दो करोड़ लोगों की जीविका चलती हैं। श्री रघुनाथ सिंह ने जो कुछ कहा वह जानकारी न होने की वजह से कहा। उन्होंने बहुत सी बातें कही हैं, उन को मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जो वह कहते हैं कि इस इन्डस्ट्री में सिर्फ ४० लाख आदमी काम करते हैं, वह गलत हैं। इस में एक करोड़ से ज्यादा लोग लगे हुए हैं और एक कर्घे पर चार, पांच आदमी काम करते हैं।

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह** : आप की सरकारी रिपोर्ट में यही हैं।

**श्री इब्राहीम** : आप सिर्फ सरकारी रिपोर्ट पर भरोसा करते हैं। आप देहातों में जाइये और अपनी आंखों से देखिये।

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह** : हम सरकार के अंग हैं और उस की बात पर भरोसा करते हैं।

श्री इब्राहीम : ठीक हैं, आप को भरोसा करना चाहिये । लेकिन हकीकत को भी देखना चाहिये । इसी तरह से आप फूड के मामले को सामने रखिये । इस फूड के मामले में ही क्या होता था । बराबर स्टैटिस्टिक्स सामने आते थे, लेकिन क्या हुआ ? सब कुछ तो आप ने देख लिया हैं । इसलिये आप सरकार पर भी भरोसा कीजिये लेकिन जनता की बातों के ऊपर भी कुछ ध्यान दीजिये और जहां आप रहते हैं उन की बातों को भी सामने रखिये ताकि लोगों को जानकारी हो ।

तो मैं कहना यह चाहता हूं कि एक एक कर्घे पर पांच पांच आदमी काम करते हैं । इस का नतीजा यह होता हैं कि देहातों में सारे घर के लोग कर्घे पर लगे रहते हैं । गांव में दूसरे धन्धे भी होते हैं, उन को लोग करते हैं। अब अगर कोई खेती करना चाहता हैं तो उस का दूसरा भाई कर्घे पर काम कर रहा हैं । वह खेत से लौट कर आया तो वह काम करने लगा और दूसरा भाई दूसरा काम करने लगा । इस तरह से चार पांच आदमी कर्घे पर काम करते हैं । साथ साथ उस के घर की औरतें और बच्चे भी उस में मदद करते हैं और काम करते हैं । यह कार्टज इन्डस्ट्री हैं, इस में बेकार समय का भी लोग फायदा उठाते हैं । इसीलिये मैं यह कहता हूं कि इस में करोड़ों आदमी काम करते हैं । रघुनाथ सिंह जी की जो जानकारी हैं कि कर्घे में ज्यादा आदमी काम नहीं करते हैं, यह बिल्कुल गलत हैं । उन को असलियत का पता नहीं हैं । शायद उन्होंने दो एक आदमियों को देखा होगा या उन के यहां गये होंगे । मैं उन से कहूंगा कि गांव में जा कर देखें तो उन को पता चलेगा कि उस में कई आदमी काम करते हैं । इस चीज को उन को ध्यान में रखना चाहिये कि एक आदमी पूरा वक्त नहीं देता हैं, इसलिये कि उसे खेती भी करनी होती हैं, दूसरे काम भी करने होते हैं । अगर इसी उद्योग में लगे रहें तो यह इन्डस्ट्री खत्म हो जाये । आप जानते हैं कि एक जमाने से हैंडलूम इन्डस्ट्री और मिलों में कम्पिटीशन हैं । अंगरेजों ने किस तरह से इस इन्डस्ट्री को खत्म करना चाहा और किस तरह से यह बरकरार रही । दूसरे दूसरे ही काम कर के इस इन्डस्ट्री को जिन्दा रक्खा गया हैं ।

साथ साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि बेकारी दूर हो तो सोचिये कि आप कैसे इस को दूर कर सकते हैं । आप बेकारी को तभी दूर कर सकते हैं जब कि देहात के लोगों को आप आगे बढ़ायें । कार्टज इन्डस्ट्री को आगे बढ़ायें और विलेज इन्डस्ट्रीज को आगे बढ़ायें । आप यहां बहुत लम्बी चौड़ी बातें करते हैं, लेकिन प्रैक्टिकल फील्ड में कुछ भी काम नहीं हुआ हैं । हमारी हुकूमत की मैशीनरी का जो ढंग हैं उसी ढंग से वह काम करती हैं और उस को सहयोग नहीं मिलता हैं । सेस फंड का जो रुपया हैं उस से मैं देखता हूं कि कुछ भी फायदा नहीं हुआ हैं । मैं जानता हूं कि दो चार जगह एम्पोरियम भी शो के वास्ते खोले गये हैं । कपड़े भी टांग दिये गये हैं और अफसर भी रक्खे गये हैं । लेकिन इस से कोई खास भला नहीं हुआ हैं । हो सकता हैं कि आगे हो, क्योंकि अभी तो शुरू शुरू का मामला हैं । लेकिन अभी तक जो बेचारों को दुःख था उस दुःख में कमी नहीं हुई हैं । अगर आप बेकारी को दूर करना चाहते हैं तो इस धन्धे की आप मदद करें और जैसा कि रेजोल्यूशन लाया गया हैं, धोतियों और साड़ियों का रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिये । यह काम जरूर होना चाहिये, अगर आज नहीं होता तो कल करना होगा, कल नहीं तो परसों करना होगा । क्या आप समझते हैं कि जिस धन्धे में दो करोड़ आदमी हैं और वह भूखे रहेंगे तो वह चुप बैठे रहेंगे । यहां रेवोल्यूशन हो जायेगा । एक क्रान्ति आयेगी तब आप लोग समझेंगे कि हम लोगों ने इन दुखी लोगों के साथ इन्साफ नहीं किया, इसी का यह नतीजा हो रहा हैं । आप दो करोड़ लोगों को भूखे और तकलीफ में नहीं छोड़ सकते हैं । उन की तरफ आप को ध्यान देना होगा जिस में उन की तरक्की हो । इसी में भारत की भी तरक्की होगी और भारत का कल्याण होगा ।

श्री धुलेकर (झांसी दक्षिण) : सभापति जी, यह प्रस्ताव जो आप के सामने उपस्थित किया गया है उस के शब्दों को देख कर के मेरे कुछ मित्रों ने उस का विरोध किया है। जैसे हमारे सेठ अचल सिंह जी ने कहा कि अगर धोतियों और साड़ियों का रिजर्वेशन कर दिया जायेगा तो वह व्यावहारिक बात नहीं होगी। कुछ लोगों ने और भी बहुत सी बातें कही हैं। लेकिन प्रश्न इस प्रस्ताव की शब्दावली का नहीं है। यह सवाल तो सरकार के सामने पेश किया गया है, और अगर हमारे आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब या इस सदन के मेरे दूसरे मित्र यह समझ कर इस की मुखालिफत करें कि यह सिर्फ धोतियों और साड़ियों का सवाल है, तो मैं समझता हूं कि इस प्रस्ताव का बहुत गलत अर्थ लगाया जायेगा। जितने हमारी सभा के सदस्य हैं, मैं समझता हूं कि सभी अपने अपने जिले के अच्छे काम करने वाले हैं। उन को मालूम है कि कपड़े पर काम करने वाले लोग कहीं पर कोरी कहलाते हैं, कहीं पर जुलाहे कहलाते हैं और कहीं पर दूसरे नाम से पुकारे जाते हैं। वह देखें कि पिछले २०, २५ वर्ष पहले उन के जिलों में जो कपड़ा बुनने वालों की तादाद थी वह कितनी थी, उन की माली हालत पहले क्या थी और आज उन की तादाद और माली हालत क्या है। इस सदन का प्रत्येक सदस्य इस बात को कहेगा कि अगर किसी जिले में इन कपड़ा बुनने वालों की तादाद पहले ४०,००० थी तो आज वहां पर उनकी तादाद ४,००० की नहीं है। साथ ही मैं यह समझता हूं कि कितनी ज्यादा गरीबी कपड़ा बुनने वालों के घरों में है, उतनी गरीबी और कामों के करने वाले जो हैं उन में नहीं है। मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि मेरे जिले झांसी का मउरानीपुर कस्बा, रानीपुर कस्बा, महरौनी कस्बा और झांसी का खास शहर, सब मिल कर लगभग ४०,००० खान्दानों को रोटी देते थे। तीन रुपये की साड़ी से ले कर के पांच सौ रुपये तक की साड़ियां और धोतियां वहां पर तैयार की जाती थीं। जरी का काम बहुत अच्छा होता था और दक्षिण में जो नौ गज की रेशमी साड़ी पहनी जाती है जिस को पांडावई कहते हैं, वह भी वहां पर बनाई जाती थी। इसी तरह से जो शाल् कहलाता है और दुपट्टा की तौर पर होता है तथा इस तरह की और भी सैकड़ों चीजें वहां पर तैयार होती थीं। आज इन को तैयार करने वाले आदमियों की हालत क्या है ? उन में से बहुत से तो इन्दौर की तरफ भाग गये और मिलों में काम करने लगे। बहुत से लोग कारीगरों के साथ आज मिट्टी ढो रहे हैं। बहुत सी औरतें लोगों के घरों में बरतन मांजती हैं और जो बच्चे हैं वे इधर उधर लोगों के घरों में छोटा छोटा काम करते हैं। और अब जो नया धंधा बीड़ी का निकल आया है उसमें ये लोग ज्यादातर चले गये हैं क्योंकि बीड़ी के धंधे में उनको उनके घर पर मालिक आकर सामान दे जाता है और वह लोग सब मिलकर कुछ कपड़ा भी बुनते हैं और कुछ अपने घर में बैठकर बीड़ियां भी बना लेते हैं जिससे उनको रुपया डेढ़ रुपया और मिल जाता है। मैं देखता हूं कि मेरे मित्र इस बात को नहीं देखते हैं कि इस तरह से सात आठ आदमियों के परिवार को जो कि बुनने का काम करते हैं, और उनके छोटे बच्चों से लेकर साठ बरस के बूढ़े तक काम करते हैं, दो ढाई रुपये रोज से ज्यादा औसत नहीं पड़ता है। आज इन कपड़ा बुनने वालों की हालत इतनी बुरी है कि अगर उनका स्तर देखा जाये तो उनकी फी आदमी आमदनी दो तीन चार आने से ज्यादा नहीं पड़ती है। मैं बंगाल में गया हूं, दक्षिण भी गया हूं और और जगह भी मैं ने देखा है कि आज इन बुनने वालों के समाज की बहुत ही गरीबी की और नीची हालत है। इसके लिए गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया का यह कहना काफी नहीं है कि हमने इनके लिए ५ करोड़ रुपया दिया है। यह २६ करोड़ आदमियों का मुल्क है और इस इतने बड़े मुल्क में इस कपड़ा बनाने वाले समाज के लिए दस पांच करोड़ रुपया कोई बड़ी चीज नहीं है। हमको उनका स्तर देखना चाहिए। मैं आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब से और सदन से यह अपील करूंगा कि केवल

[श्री धुलेकर]

इस सवाल को टॅकनिकल कह देने से या इसको सिर्फ धोती और साड़ी का सवाल कह देने से कोई फायदा नहीं होगा। हमारे मित्र ने जो यह धोती और साड़ी का सवाल आपके सामने रखा है इससे उनकी ख्वाहिश सिर्फ धोती और साड़ी को आपके सामने रखने की नहीं और न यह कहने से कोई फायदा होगा कि यह टॅकनिकल सवाल है और यह इम्प्रॅक्टिकेबिल है और इसलिए इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार नहीं किया जा सकता और इसको पास नहीं किया जाता है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस तरह से इस सवाल को हल करने में तो बहुत से मनुष्यों की हत्या करना है। मैं यह अपील करता हूं कि यदि गवर्नमेंट इस बात को समझती है कि हिन्दुस्तान के जो कपड़ा बुनने वाले लोग हैं उनके लिए कुछ करना है तो मैं तो यह समझता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट को चाहिए कि सिर्फ इस बात पर जोर न देकर वह एक एक्सपर्ट कमेटी बनावे और इस बात की कोशिश करे कि धोती के अलावा जो और मोटा कपड़ा जैसे मारकीन वगैरह जो कि लाखों और करोड़ों आदमी पहनते हैं, वह भी करघों को दिया जाये। अब बहुत से आदमियों ने धोती पहनना छोड़ कर पाजामा पहनना शुरू कर दिया है। जो लोग पहले धोती पहनते थे वे अब पाजामा पहनने लगे हैं। इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि धोती शब्द में पाजामा भी दाखिल समझना चाहिए क्योंकि आजकल पाजामा करोड़ों आदमी पहनते हैं। उसी के साथ आप देखिये कि पाजामे के अन्दर जो अंडर वियर पहना जाता है वह भी मोटे कपड़े का होता है। इसको भी आप देखें। दूसरे जो साड़ी के अन्दर पेटी कोट आदि पहने जाते हैं उनको भी आप इसमें शामिल करें।

**Shri Velayudhan:** Pyjamas should be banned.

**श्री धुलेकर :** मैं तो आपसे यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि साड़ी और धोती का मतलब यह लिया जाये कि जो लोग मोटे तरीके से पहनते हैं उस प्रकार के कपड़े को हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को दिया जाये और जो हमारे कोली और जुलाहे हैं उनको यह न समझना चाहिए कि यह एक व्यवसाय वाले हैं और ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन के लिए हमारे सामने आये हैं। यह तो हम २६ करोड़ आदमी आपसे प्रोडक्शन चाहते हैं हम २६ करोड़ आदमी आपसे यह चाहते हैं कि हमको दो ही चीजें मिलें, एक तो रोटी और दूसरा कपड़ा। अगर यहां के आदमियों को रोटी और कपड़ा भी नहीं मिल सकेगा तो मैं समझता हूं कि ऐसे मुल्क को दुनिया में जिन्दा रहने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है। कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री की जब जब बात आती है तो हमारे आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहिबान देहात में जाते हैं और जो लोग उनके सामने अपने कारनामे पेश करते हैं तो कहीं तो उनके सामने डलियां पेश कर दी जाती हैं, कहीं पर बांस के पंखे, कहीं काठ के खिलौने और कहीं मिट्टी के बरतन उनके सामने पेश किये जाते हैं और हमारे मिनिस्टर साहिबान समझते हैं कि इस आदमी ने या इस संस्था ने कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री का बहुत भारी काम किया है। मैं कहूंगा कि कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री से और इन चीजों से कोई वास्ता नहीं है। यह तो खिलौने हैं जो उनको दिखाये जाते हैं। कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री का तो यह मतलब होना चाहिए कि हम अपने घरों में बैठकर और काम के साथ साथ कुछ चीजों को तैयार कर सकें और उनके द्वारा अपनी आमदनी बढ़ा सकें। उस तरफ हमारी दृष्टि नहीं है। इसलिए मैं आपसे अर्ज करूंगा कि यह जो सवाल आपके सामने पेश किया गया है यह केवल धोती और साड़ी का ही सवाल नहीं है यह तरीका है कि आपका ध्यान आज हिन्दुस्तान की कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री की तरफ खींचा जाये। आज आपके सामने यह सवाल नहीं है कि अगर धोती और साड़ी को मिलों से लेकर हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को दे दिया जायेगा तो साड़ी का दाम १२ रुपये और धोती का ८ रुपये हो जायेगा। हम तो आपके सामने यह सवाल इसलिए पेश करना चाहते हैं कि आप देखें कि जो कार्टेज इंडस्ट्री का सवाल है, मय कपड़े के, उसके लिए आपको क्या करना चाहिए। यह

चीज हम आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर से सुनना चाहते हैं कि वह काटेज इंडस्ट्री के लिए क्या करना चाहते हैं। हम सिर्फ यह नहीं सुनना चाहते हैं कि साहब अगर हम साड़ी और धोती को हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को दे देंगे तो इनकम टैक्स का इतना नुकसान होगा, एक्साइज ड्यूटी का इतना नुकसान होगा। ये बातें तो हम किताबों में भी पढ़ सकते हैं और इन को तो हम खूब जानते हैं। हम तो आपसे इस बात का उत्तर चाहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान के २६ करोड़ आदमियों में से जिनके पास कोई पेशा नहीं हैं उनको आपने क्या देना तै किया हैं और यह भी जानना चाहते हैं कि यह जो कपड़े का धन्धा हमारे गरीब लोगों के हाथ में हैं उसको आप उनके हाथ में रहने देंगे या नहीं। या आप यह चाहते हैं कि ये जितने आदमी हैं आहिस्ता आहिस्ता इस धन्धे से निकल कर खत्म हो जायें और उनके हाथ में कोई चीज न रहे। इतना कहकर मैं फिर आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर से अपील करता हूं कि वे इस प्रश्न को जरा विस्तृत रूप से सोच कर फिर उत्तर दें।

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** At the outset, I would like to say that the Government and members of the Cabinet—the hon. Finance Minister, myself and the Prime Minister—have spent several sleepless nights on this problem almost from the time when we took over. Shri C. Rajagopalachari, who was then the Chief Minister of Madras, had brought this problem to the attention of the Government of India. It was he who suggested that as a short cut to solving the problem of the handloom industry, the area of reservation might be increased and *sarees* and *dhoties* might be reserved for handlooms. He was impelled to do that because of the intense suffering of the handloom weavers in South India. The Madras State, as it then was, retained the largest number of handloom weavers. There is no point in our saying today that millions of families are suffering or in our evaluating them in terms of numbers, for the reason that our statistics are all wrong. But there is no denying that the quantum of human beings dependent on the handloom industry is a very appreciable number. It does not matter whether the total number of handlooms is 28 lakhs or 16 lakhs, the total number of people living on the handlooms is 28 lakhs into five or 16 lakhs into five, it is a very appreciable number. So, we need not quarrel about the numbers affected. If there are sixteen lakhs of looms and there are eighty lakhs of people starving, there are a number of people who starve because of these starving people in competing so far as work is concerned and all that follows and the misery multiplies. It is essentially a human problem; it is not so much an economic problem; and we have been approaching this problem from the human angle. It is no question of there being any dispute in regard to what should be done for our unfortunate countrymen, who are dependent for their sustenance on a particular type of living on a particular type of economic activity which basically is unstable. But, somehow or other it is the responsibility of every citizen of this country and of the Government, which the citizens have placed into power, to see that that misery is relieved. All the disputes that we had amongst ourselves, Mr. Rajagopalachari and members of the Central Cabinet has been merely in regard to the methods that have to be adopted, whether an outright reservation of that nature would help Madras. In point of fact, it would not have helped Madras because of various circumstances and the priorities of movement which is an obligation that is laid on me as Commerce and Industry Minister. We were able to indicate to the Railway Administration that since the *dhoties* and *sarees* were available in plenty in South India, the priority need not be given for mill-made

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*dhoties* and *sarees* from Bombay and Ahmedabad. And, as a result, instead of 5,100 bales going to Madras, which was the demand made by the Madras Government in 1951, by 1953, the movement came down to about 800 or 900 bales a month so far as *dhoties* are concerned and to about 400 bales a month so far as *sarees* are concerned, in the composite State of Madras.

12 NOON

It must be conceded that the reservation artificially effected by means of utilisation or a correct utilisation of priorties has given Madras an advantage far above the reservation that we have achieved by laying an embargo on mills that they should not produce more than 60 per cent. of *dhoties* they produced in the past. So, the picture is not all the same everywhere. What is good for Madras is not good for U.P., or Bihar or Bengal and Orissa, Rajasthan and the Punjab. The net result of our restricting production of *dhoties* by mills in the initial stages had resulted in the prices of *dhoties* going up, because in many areas the handloom industry did not produce *dhoties*. Actually, before 1950, U.P. had no looms producing wide width *dhoties* and *sarees* and it was in 1950 that the U. P. Government financed about ten looms for producing wide width *dhoties* and *sarees* because they were in short supply in 1950; the same is the case in Bombay. In Bombay, the production of *dhoties*, at any rate, by handlooms is practically negligible, and therefore the prices shot up. *Dhoties* which were selling at Rs. 6/- a pair shot up to Rs. 18/-a pair. Somebody did make money and as my hon. friends put it the mill magnates did make money. We, incidentally, allowed them to make the money by putting a restriction. We thought that we would probably be able to help these people partly. But the action of Government, without any considered thought behind it, without investigation of the facts that existed in various States can only lead to an anomaly of the nature that occurred when we put that restriction on *dhoties* and *sarees* namely, that in areas where the handloom did not produce the *dhoties* and *sarees*, the prices shot up to a level which was something atrocious I, at any rate the Government, had to put up with the kicks that resulted from prices rising in various areas. My predecessor and colleague, Shri Hare Krishna Mahtab, told me that he could not go to the villages in Orissa because people said, 'the prices of *dhoties* have shot up and what is your Government doing about it'? That was the reason why we tried a very mild method of checking in regard to the production of *dhoties* and *sarees*. I must say that, initially, there were cases where mills did not obey the order, particularly in areas from which some of my friends who have supported the motion come. There was one mill in Bihar—I would not mention names—which produced seven times what they produced before the restriction, a very small mill. We could have prosecuted them but we felt that it was much better to adopt a check like this—a special penal excise duty on *dhoties*. I must say that both because of that check and because of the general shift in public opinion, the position in regard to production of *dhoties* during the month of July 1954 seems to be extremely good from our point of view, namely, the point of view of the restrictionists. The normal quota of production of *dhoties* on the basis of 60 per cent.—and with certain relaxations that we have allowed—will mean 48 million yards per month. I have here statistics of practically all the mills—about 27 in number—very small mills—and the production in July has been 33,418,000 yards; that is, roughly about 14 millions yards less than the quota—allowed. So, the restriction is operating and the business of manufacture of *dhoties* by mills is going down.

It would not be right for the hon. Members to say that in these circumstances that all that we have done is an eye-wash, that we are cheating somebody, that the mills are cheating us and that we are cheating the Members of Parliament and the public. May be some cheating does take place. After all, if cheating does not take place, there will not be section 420 in the I.P.C. That is why we have provision in the Penal Code. But the cheating is kept in check because we are not absolutely sleeping.

Sir, the position today in regard to the handlooms all over has slightly changed. I must say this that I am not really boasting. I am only doing my duty, what is my duty as a member of a Cabinet which has been put in power by the Congress party that if there is any item in the hundreds of items which the Commerce and Industry Ministry is responsible for to which I devote personal attention, I should say it is the handloom industry.

Sir, my hon. colleague knows—or practically I must say among colleagues—we have hardly any difference of opinion. Myself and my colleague the Finance Minister have had hardly any difference of opinion in any matter. If at all any difference of opinion arises, even now I will discuss with him only the question of handloom industry, say, with regard to the financial sanction towards handloom industry. Our Ministry have put it a limit beyond even the impersonal sphere and made it a personal matter which can be the bone of contention with a colleague who is otherwise extremely accommodative.

I must say that I was not very satisfied with the expenditure on the allocations that we made last year. As the House should be aware, when we started this cess, we started it rather late, our plans in the various States were not ready and we allotted Rs. 3½ crores for handlooms. Barring loans, the total amount of grants sanctioned for the scheme was Rs. 2,94,00,000 and the expenditure made was only Rs. 53,00,000 last year. That was largely due to the fact that most of the States were not ready with their plans to spend these grants. Hon. Members in this House will concede that if the grants are not spent, we should not throw away the money. The money has got to be spent. Just before the last annual meeting of the Handloom Board on 16th June I went down to Bombay myself. I asked my Secretary to write to all the important State Governments to ask the Directors of Industries, Registrars of co-operative Societies and the Development Secretaries to come to Bombay. I ignored the protocol and conducted the meeting myself—because a Minister is not supposed to have meetings with any other people except Ministers. We discussed the problem of each State threadbare. We tried to find some basic problems which were common and decided to discuss other minor problems separately with each group. I was surprised to find that my colleague handed over to me a record of my indiscreet speeches made on that occasion. He asked me to prepare, but I said: "No". I spoke for nearly one hour and twenty minutes. I was burning with anger in regard to the non-expenditure of the money set apart for this purpose. I think, Sir, we could make this report available to the Members of this House who want to see it. It also reveals that we are not closing our eyes to the realities of the situation. We knew our defects and we wanted to rectify them.

Then, Sir, the record itself is not something of which we need be ashamed of inspite of my hon. friend Shri Sivamurthi Swami. As I said in the beginning our statistics show that there are 28 lakhs of looms in India. A little over 4 lakhs looms are household looms in Assam and if you take that away, about 24 lakhs looms are there. A sample survey conducted by the Kanungo Committee revealed that in several areas the total number of looms was between 50 to 55 per cent. of the statistics. Allowing that household looms are

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more in areas where there are larger number of handlooms, it would not be wrong to assume the number of looms as about 16 to 17 lakhs.

Then, we have got 7,62,000 looms under co-operative societies. My hon. friend over there said something about co-operative societies and I have to say something about that before I sit down. It is not an unimpressive record to have 7,62,000 looms under co-operative societies, and last year inspite of the shortness of time at our disposal after the grants were made available, we were able to add 35,200 looms to co-operative societies. I must give all honour to those States which took up this question of bringing in handloom weavers under co-operative societies and have done something in this direction. I do believe, Sir, that in this current year we are going to spend money and are going to spend it in a few more directions. My hon. friend Shri Gopalan is looking at me. I know it is a look which has an element of condemnation. He is asking: "What have you done for my part of the country?" I know he has been writing to me very often...

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** With no effect.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I do not think in this matter it has been without any effect because he has brought home to me a problem which I have not been able to solve by means of co-operative societies. We are on the threshold of an experiment which, perhaps, might partly solve the problem of Malabar. There the handloom worker is a sweated labourer engaged by minor petty capitalists who make him work. We are really thinking of trying out the system of industrial co-operatives. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies of Madras, Mr. Ryan, whose experience in the co-operative field is perhaps unique in India, is at the moment working out a scheme and I propose to try it out at one or two places where we can make the workers the owners of the co-operative society. It may be something new in India, but I do believe very firmly that so far as small-scale industries are concerned, we probably have to try this method of industrial co-operatives. It may be that there will be an element of compulsion and, therefore, my hon. friend Mr. Asoka Mehta might not like it altogether, but perhaps I might be drawn nearer Mr. Gopalan than Mr. Asoka Mehta in the matter of ideology. That is what we are trying to do.

Finally, may I say this? The centre of trouble, so far as handloom weavers are concerned, all over India, is a place called Salem, and that is the place where Mr. Rajagopalachari is working. Naturally he knew the problem and the difficulties that the people in his place are suffering from. I have here a report from *The Hindu*—I do not know who the reporter is—dated the 20th July, 1954, and the reporter of *The Hindu* has written a communication dated the 16th July 1954 under the heading "The Handloom Industry—Increase in Production—Salem Weavers in Better Condition". The heading is not an untrue heading, and there are one or two quotations that I would like to make from this report:

> "Discussing the situation, Mr. M. S. Krishnamurthi, President, Yarn Merchants' Association, stated that there was no accumulation of stocks of handloom goods of standard varieties with any business man at present and that several dealers had forward orders.
>
> He added that weavers too were getting good wages and assured work and that plenty of yarn of all counts was available at reasonable rates. He estimated the average daily earnings of a weaver between three and five rupees and stated that artisan-weavers capable of working on designs and fashionable borders were easily earning at the rate of five rupees per day. But, his

complaint was that the rebate of 18 pies, now confined to the co-operative depots and emporia..."

Again, later on it says:

"Mr. K. K. Poorniah, one of the weaver-leaders, who conducted *Satyagraha* in the beginning of 1951 when the industry faced a crisis, expressed gratitudes, on behalf of lakhs of weavers all over the State, to Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, former Chief Minister, for his championing the cause of the handloom industry and pointed out how weavers had taken now to producing even linen varieties, to compete with mill-varieties, following the recent fillip and protection given to the handloom industry."

That, I think, is a fact. My reports show that the position now is not what it used to be, but there may be isolated pockets here and there in the country. I heard a report the other day from Hyderabad that the yarn supply is inadequate and Mr. Sivamurthi Swami is concerned about it.

That brings me almost to the end of my story. At the present rate of production in mills, free yarn supply per month cannot exceed 80,000 bales probably 81,000 or 82,000 bales in some cases. The consumption of yarn by handloom weavers during the days of crisis has been 56,000, 57,000, 60,000 and 61,000 and the consumption average is about 80,000 bales a month. I have to do something about it; I have to start some more spinning wheels or make the spinning workers to work on longer shifts. If our expectation of production of Indian cotton goes up, as it might, from 40,50,000 to 45,00,000 bales this year, it is quite possible that there might be a little more free yarn, but I must tell the House that the problem might be a little different when my hon. friend moves the next Resolution. It would not be a case of the handloom weaver not being able to sell his cloth but his not being able to get sufficient yarn for his requirements. That would be a totally different problem. This problem is with us every day and we are trying our best to resolve it. I do feel that at the moment this Resolution is not merely premature, but it will not also meet the situation in the country.

Lastly, I would like to add that in regard to the future of handlooms, we have committed this question to the Kanungo Committee. I do expect that the Committee will be able to send its report by about the middle of next month. If the printers will print the report soon, I think it could be placed before the House, before this session concludes, or, if not, we will post a copy to each Member. I expect that this Committee would be able to give us some idea as to how to solve this problem for all time. In the meantime we are not keeping idle. We are trying experiments.

A word more about the names that have been mentioned here. I should take very strong exception to what Shri Gadilingana Gowd said. He mentioned the name of a person who has an honoured place in the history of handloom weaving in South India, a person whom I know, whose work I know, whose work has been monumental. In fact, it is my idea to copy the example of Yammiganur where he has been working. In fact, if I could establish one colony like Yemmiganur in every State, I could say that I have justified my position as Minister of Commerce and Industry. I am very sorry that aspersions have been made against a person for whom the Government and the people of South India have a great deal of respect and whose work is invaluable. I would like to say finally that such being the condition of the handloom industry the resolution is not merely inappropriate but would do a little more of harm than good. Therefore, I must oppose the resolution and all the amendments proposed to it.

**श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी** (कुष्टगी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं हाउस को सबसे पहले धन्यवाद

[श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी]

देना चाहता हूं क्योंकि बहुत से मेम्बरों ने इस रिजोल्यूशन के असली मतलब का समर्थन किया हैं । मुझे अफसोस हैं कि एक दो मेम्बरान ने इसका ठीक तरीके पर मतलब नहीं समझा ।

यह एक कदीम जमाने की इंडस्ट्री हैं । यह तो कोई एक सौ साल के इधर की बात हैं कि हम मिल के कपड़े के आदी होते जा रहे हैं । इससे पहले हिन्दुस्तान की आबादी करीब ३२ करोड़ थी और उस वक्त इस आबादी को कपड़ा देने वाला कौन था ? क्या उस वक्त कोई मिल हमको कपड़ा बना कर देती थी । अगर उस वक्त कोई शख्स सारे देश को कपड़ा देने वाला था तो ये बुनकर ही थे । पहले एक दो मिलें शुरू हुईं फिर दस बीस हुईं और आज ४४५ मिलें हैं । मैं दावे से कह सकता हूं कि अगर तमाम मिलें आज बन्द कर दी जायं तो कोई वजह नहीं हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में कपड़ा न मिले । जरूर मिलेगा । मैं आवेश में आ कर कोई बात नहीं कहना चाहता और न मैं मिल इंडस्ट्री के खिलाफ हूं । जो जुलाहों की आज हालत हैं उसको आप छिपा कर नहीं रख सकते । उनकी असली तस्वीर साफ जाहिर हो जाती हैं । कहा जाता हैं कि चालू हैंडलूम्स २८ लाख हैं । मिनिस्टर साहब के स्टेटमेंट से मालूम होता हैं कि इससे भी कम हैं । फिर भी मैं कह सकता हूं कि आज इस देश में बुनकरों की संख्या एक करोड़ या इससे ज्यादा हैं । अगर मिल का सूत हैंडलूम वालों को ठीक तरीके पर सप्लाई किया जाय तो आप न केवल सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लिये धोतियां और साड़ियां बना सकते हैं बल्कि आप उनको एक्सपोर्ट भी कर सकते हैं । इसमें कोई शक की बात नहीं रह जाती हैं ।

इसके बाद मैं जनाब मिनिस्टर साहब के बयान पर आता हूं । उन्होंने जो इस सबजेक्ट के बारे में तस्वीर खींची हैं और जो हाउस के सामने अपने रिएक्शन्स रखे हैं मैं उनसे सहमत नहीं हो सकता । मैं इस वास्ते उनसे सहमत नहीं हो सकता कि आज हिन्दुस्तान के वीवर्स की हर जगह एक सी ही हालत नहीं हैं । साउथ इंडिया का हाल तो मैं जानता हूं । अंसारी साहब की स्पीच से जो कि कूच-बिहार से आते हैं और एक और साहब की स्पीच से जो कि बिहार के हैं मालूम होता हैं कि वहां भी वीवर्स की हालत एक्यूट होती जा रही हैं । मेरी समझ में रिजोल्यूशन का मतलब सिर्फ यह था कि जो असल प्राब्लम हैं उसको किस तरह हल किया जाय और जो कपड़ा वह लोग बनाते हैं उसके लिए कुछ मारकेट रिजर्व कर दिया जाय । जब यहां पर १९४९ में ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट थी तो उसने एक फैक्ट-फाइंडिंग कमेटी बनाई थी । उन्होंने साफ तौर पर बतला दिया कि हिन्दुस्तान में किस तरह से कम्पटीशन होता हैं । उन्होंने कहा हैं :

"We have examined the contention on both sides with such data as are available to us. We fear that the divergence of views mentioned above is partly due to a difference in the definition of the term "competition". We take the term "competition" as it is usually understood in economic parlance. When a demand is met by two or more similar irreplacable commodities, a state of competition is said to exist between them. In this particular sense we doubt if anybody will deny the existence of competition between mills and handlooms."

"The handloom weavers throughout the country believe that their troubles are mainly due to mill competition. Wherever we went, bitter complaints were made to us by hand weavers regarding encroachment by mills. The loudest complaints perhaps were heard in some of the centres of *sari* production like Santipur, Burahanpur, Ilkal, Sholapur, Guntur and Canjeevaram."

इसी तरह से उन्होंने अपने बहुत से नतायज निकाले । अगर मिनिस्ट्री बिल्कुल सच्चे दिल से इन वीवर्स का साथ देना चाहती हैं तो मैं सबसे पहले यह मसला उनके सामने रखना चाहता हूं कि जो उसने हैंडलूम बोर्ड बनाया

हैं उसका जो चेयरमैन टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर को बनाया हैं उसको निकाला जाय। वह हमेशा मिल ओनर्स के असर में रहता हैं। वह इंडियन हैंडलूम के साथ सौतेली मां का सा बरताव करता हैं। मैं हैंडलूम बोर्ड के उद्देश्य को मानता हूं। उसका जो काम हैं उसका भी मैं आदर करता हूं। लेकिन जब तक उसके परसोनल को ठीक नहीं करेंगे और उसमें से जब तक आप टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर को नहीं निकालेंगे तब तक यह बोर्ड अपनी पूरी ताकत से काम नहीं करेगा। इसकी वजह साफ तौर से जो मिल ओनर्स की फैक्ट-फाइंडिंग कमेटी हैं उसकी रिपोर्ट बतलाती हैं। उसमें से मैं आपको एक जुम्ला पढ़ कर सुनाता हूं।

"Views of mill-owners and others regarding malpractices."

ये मिल ओनर्स के व्यूज हैं। मैं मानता हूं कि मिल ओनर्स कई माल प्रेक्टिसेज करते हैं और वीवर्स का रोज बरोज कम्पटीशन करते हैं। उनका बहुत बड़ा सेक्रेटेरिएट हैं और उसका सेक्रेटरी पांच हजार रुपये तनख्वाह पाता हैं जो कि हमारे सरकारी अफसरों की तनख्वाह से बहुत ज्यादा हैं। उन्होंने एक थ्रोपिचन सेक्रेटरी रखा हैं ताकि वे आर्गेनाइज्ड तरीके से कम्पटीशन कर सकें। आपको इस हैंडलूम इंडस्ट्री को कम्पलीमेंटरी बनाना था लेकिन आपने इसे कम्पटीटिव बना दिया। इसके लिये मैं गवर्नमेंट को इल्जाम देता हूं। इसका इल्जाम मैं साफतौर पर श्री टी० टी० कृष्णमाचारी को देता हूं। इसका इल्जाम मैं सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को देता हूं कि इस तरह से इन बेचारे लाखों आदमियों और औरतों का खून चूसा जा रहा हैं और उनका खाना छीना जा रहा हैं। मैं इसमें ज्यादा न जाते हुए आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं मिल ओनर्स क्या कहते हैं। यह मैं उस रिपोर्ट के सफा ६६ से पढ़ता हूं :

"Views of mill-owners and others regarding malpractices; The Mill-owners' Association, Bombay, in their reply to our questionnaire state: The Association has always set its face against malpractices such as short reeling, false packing, overdeclaration of weight, etc. As a result of representations made during the last five or six years, the Merchandise Marks Act has recently been amended, and provided the new provisions are strictly enforced, complaints of the character just referred to are likely to disappear with considerable advantage to the handloom weaver."

यह १९४२ में लिखा हैं लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि बंडलों के बारे में मैलप्रैक्टिस आज के दिन भी जारी हैं, एक कमेटी इस बात की जांच करने के लिये बैठी कि बंडलों में कितनी बदमाशी होती हैं तो पता चला कि ऊपर तो बंडल के २० काउन्ट लिखा होता हैं लेकिन काउन्ट वास्तव में १६ और १८ ही होता हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि आपका यह मर्चेन्डाइज मार्क्स एक्ट बना हुआ हैं, उसके तहत आपके टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर अमल करके क्यों नहीं ऐसी बदमाशी करने वाले मिल को पकड़ करके जुर्माना वगैरह या सजा देते हैं और मैं समझता हूं कि आपको थार्न के ऐसे अनेकों बंडल मिल जायेंगे जिनको जांचने पर पता चल जायेगा कि किस तरह खुले खजाने मैलप्रैक्टिस होती हैं। ऐसे रिश्वती कमिश्नरों को अगर आप हैंडलूम बोर्ड का चेयरमैन बनाते हैं तो उनसे आप सुधार की क्या उम्मीद कर सकते हैं। मेरा किसी पर जाती हमला करने का कोई इरादा नहीं हैं और मुझे नहीं मालूम कि मौजूदा कमिश्नर अच्छे हैं या पिछले कमिश्नर अच्छे थे, लेकिन मेरी तो अपील हैं कि हमें उनका चुनाव करते समय बड़ी सावधानी बरतनी चाहिये और देखना चाहिये कि हम ऐसे आदमी वहां पर भेजें जो ईमानदारी से अपनी ड्यूटी दें और मैलप्रैक्टिस को सख्ती से रोकें और उन मिल वालों को जो बेइमानी करते हैं डिटैक्ट करके सजा दिलायें। इसके अलावा मेरी हाउस से प्रार्थना हैं कि कॉमर्स एन्ड इंडस्ट्री और कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री इनको दो अलग अलग डिपार्टमेंट करके, एग्रीकलचर के मातहत कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री को दिया जाय तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा। लेकिन

[श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी]

इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्ट्री को इसको देने से दोनों सेक्रेटरीज में इस तरह से जोर से कम्पटीशन चलेगा कि कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री का किसी तरह का सवाल हल नहीं हो सकेगा। लिहाजा मैं आपसे अपील करता हूं कि कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री की प्रॉब्लम और खस्सन वीवर्स की जो प्रॉब्लम रोज बरोज बढ़ती जा रही हैं, उस पर आप ध्यान से गौर करें और उसको हल करने की कोशिश करें।

जहां तक मेरे प्रस्ताव का सम्बन्ध हैं, मुझे मालूम हैं कि मेरे प्रस्ताव की क्या फेट होने वाली हैं। फेट तो मैं उसी वक्त जानता था जब मैंने इसको हाउस के सामने पेश किया था और उसके संग किये गये 'इनडिफरेन्ट ट्रीटमेंट' को भी मैं अच्छी तरह समझ चुका था और जानता था कि गवर्नमेंट इस ओर महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाने नहीं जा रही हैं लेकिन फिर भी चूंकि इस तरह का प्रस्ताव लाने का वीवर्स ने बहुत जोर दिया था और उस सम्बन्ध में वीवर्स ने पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों और प्राइम मिनिस्टर को प्रस्ताव पास कर कर के भेजे हैं कि एसा होना चाहिये और चूंकि इसे सर्वत्र समर्थन प्राप्त था और चूंकि कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट इन पावर थी, जो कि महात्मा गांधी के नाम पर हुकूमत करती हैं, मैं ने यह प्रस्ताव पेश किया और आशा थी कि अब चूंकि विदेशी शासन नहीं रहा और महात्मा गांधी के अनुयायियों की हकूमत हैं इसलिये इस ओर विशेष ध्यान दिया जायगा और इस बेईमानी और मैलप्रैक्टिस को बंद करने के लिये ठोस कदम उठाया जायगा। आज मुझे दुःख के साथ यह बात कहनी पड़ती हैं कि वह मैलप्रैक्टिस बंद नहीं हुई और आज भी इस शासन में खुले तौर पर चल रही हैं और इसको बंद करने के लिये जरूरत हैं कि आप इस मरचेंडाइज मार्कस एक्ट पर सख्ती से अमल करें। हमने १९५२ के हाएस्ट प्रोडक्शन को लेकर ४०.१ परसेंट का रिजर्वेशन किया हैं, तकरीबन २९.१ परसेंट के रिजर्वेशन होता हैं, वह सब ठीक हैं और वह होवे लेकिन मेरा कहना सिर्फ यही हैं कि जिस तरीके से खुद मिनिस्टर साहब समझते हैं कि यह एक ह्यूमेन प्रॉब्लम हैं और उसका उसी तरीके से टैकिल करना चाहिये, आप यह भी ध्यान रखें कि यह जो आपकी स्पून फीडिंग स्कीमें हैं कि सेस लगा कर जहां पर दस, पन्द्रह लाख की आबादी हैं आप वहां पर इस तरह से एक, दो लाख रुपया तकसीम कर दें, इस तरह की स्पून फीडिंग स्कीमों से कुछ विशेष होना नहीं हैं। यह एसा सवाल हैं जो आपको आज नहीं तो कल हल जरूर करना पड़ेगा, सारा देश इसको चाहता हैं और इस कॉटेज इंडस्ट्री को हमें गवर्नमेंट लेविल पर हल करना होगा और जरूरत इस बात की हैं कि सरकार इसके लिये प्लानिंग करके इस प्रॉब्लम को हल करें। इतनी प्रार्थना करते हुए मैं इस रेजोल्यूशन को हाउस के सामने रखना चाहता हूं।

**Mr. Chairman:** I will put the amendments to the vote of the House. The first is the amendment of Shri Bogawat.

The question is:

"That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that in order to protect the Handloom Industry, the production of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of 40 counts and below should be reserved for the Handloom Industry."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** I will now put the amendment of Shri Gadilingana Gowd.

The question is:

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that manufacture of *Sarees* and *Dhoties* of all counts below 60 be exclusively reserved for Handloom Industry and the mills contravening this provision be dealt with severely."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** The third amendment is that of Shri Raghunath Singh.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं अपना एमेंडमेंट वापिस लेता हूं।

*The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.*

**Mr. Chairman:** I will now put the original Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"This House is of opinion that with a view to giving a fillip to the Handloom Industry, the production of all *Sarees* and *Dhoties* should be reserved for that Industry."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** We will now proceed to the next resolution.

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## RESOLUTION *RE*: RATIONALISATION SCHEMES PLANNED IN TEXTILE AND JUTE INDUSTRIES

**Shri Punnoose** (Alleppey): I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that rationalisation schemes planned to be introduced in the textile and jute industries in the various centres in India are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country."

When I move this resolution I am aware that it will not be received kindly by certain sections of the House. We have heard arguments for rationalisation from interested people, and we have heard statements from the spokesmen of Government. Nevertheless, I am happy that this House has today an occasion to discuss this problem. I am sure that if the Labour Minister is going to speak, he will admit that this is the most burning problem agitating the mind of the working classes in India. From everywhere you hear the cry. In fact, after this motion was accepted and news came in the papers, hundreds of telegrams have been received by me. Most surprisingly of all was, not only the workers engaged in the jute and other mill industries, but workers from many other sectors including agriculture are writing to me. I have got a number of those letters here. From Travancore-Cochin, I get letters from agricultural workers who are thrown out of employment by the on-coming of tractors for which we have got a Central Organisation and about which our Government seem to be so happy. Here, I have got a letter from an employee of a bank in Bombay, the Mercantile Bank of India Ltd. He says that 40 temporary employees of that bank are going to be thrown out because some mechanical adjustment is about to be introduced. So, this is a question which should be very carefully considered by this House, with all the seriousness which it deserves.

We are not prepared to discuss rationalisation in abstract. Gentlemen who know much about it may do well not to waste their time in telling us about the advantages of modernisation and development of machinery and all that. They are all well known. We are discussing a concrete problem in a concrete situation. How is it affecting the workers of this country? How is it affecting the interests of this country? That is the only question—the most important question—that we have to consider here. I admit that this is no new problem. Rationalisation has been among us for the last so many years. In the Bombay textiles, rationalisation was suggested by the Tariff Board in 1926 and the general strike in 1928 lasting six months was the first heroic fight of the workers against rationalisation. Though temporarily halted, the employers have never given it up. At various centres, in varying degrees, sometimes openly, sometimes surreptitiously, they have introduced rationalisation. But, wherever it has been introduced, the workers have opposed it and the opposition still continues. But, the question is of supreme importance today. Why? In the first place, rationalisation, for the first time, is being planned on a countrywide scale, not in one industry or another, not in one centre or another, but in almost all the industries beginning from *bidi* up

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to jute and textiles. Everywhere it is being planned and in every centre it is being introduced. Not only that. As different from the past, a Government, a State which claims itself to be a welfare State, which speaks in terms of affection towards the peasants and workers, gives its blessing to this. It has got the sanction of the Five Year Plan and today, rationalisation threatens to throw people into unemployment and poverty, with the blessing, with the approval and with the support of a Government which speaks in the name of the people. That is why it is so important. As the Minister for Labour in the U.P. said the other day in some statement, rationalisation has become a problem that is threatening industrial peace today.

What is this rationalisation? What does it really mean? What exactly are the results as we find them? Nobody can deny that it throws out large numbers of workers. My hon. friend, Mr. Somani, if he were here, would have also admitted that workers are being thrown out, but his argument is that it is a process that is going to be accomplishd within ten to fifteen years, not an immediate happening. And then, our hon. Minister will say that there is enough commonsense among us to sit round a table and discuss the problem. Everybody admits that the workers are being thrown out on a large scale as a result of rationalisation.

Then, what about the workers that remain back? I am prepared to take any concrete example and examine it. The workers who are kept back are made to bear a heavier work load, a much heavier workload without any compensation proportionate to their additional labour.

Now, this rationalisation does not guarantee cheaper goods to the consumer. There is a curious logic of chance that brings this resolution immediately after the resolution on handlooms. What happens to your handlooms if rationalisation is completely implemented? It has been demanded that *sarees* and *dhoties* should be reserved for handlooms. When rationalisation is completed in its fullness, well, the result would be, the direct result would be, that your handloom will have no place in the picture. I am sure arguments will come, will be brought against it, but this is the undesirable result which I can prove from experience.

It does not reduce the prices. Rationalisation has been going on through these years but our people have not got cheaper cloth. Rationalisation will necessarily throw out workers. So, the only definite thing that will happen is that our financial magnates, our industrial leaders, the captains of our industry will get larger profit, still larger profit. Any amount of words like "protecting the legitimate interests of the employees", "safeguarding the rights of workers", or "rationalisation without tears" do not mean anything practically. You cannot have rationalisation in the present context, in the present capitalist production in this country, and at the same time save our people from its evil effects.

Let us come down to certain concrete facts. Take jute, one of our largest industries, employing about 3½ lakhs of workers. The Indian Jute Mills Association, controlling 75 mills in Bengal, have already enforced or are enforcing rationalisation in 28 mills. Please do not imagine that it is to increase production. Even now, 12½ per cent. of the looms remain sealed, meaning thereby the attempt is to restrict production. They have reduced the weekly working hours to 45, again to curtail production. Even the Indian Jute Mills Association does not claim that any modernisation of machinery is effected at all. In the case of jute, there is no introduction of any modernised machinery. Jute Millowners are frank enough—it should be admitted to their credit—that their rationalisation is purely one of the labour-saving devices, the remarkable result of which is that when the scheme is fully implemented, 40,000 workers will

be thrown on the streets. In this connection, it should be remembered that within the last two years 25,000 workers have already been thrown out.

With regard to increasing the workload to which I referred, it is forced on the workers. For example, in Birla Jute Mills and Ludlow Mills, workers are asked to mind two looms instead of one. Now, is it these rationalisation plans which are not in the interests of the workers and are harmful to the best interests of the country are executed, because our jute monopolists have suffered losses? Then we should sympathise with them. A survey made in 1946 on the basis of the published figures of 64 mills showed that while the total paid-up capital was less than Rs. 19 crores, the reserve and other funds amounted to Rs. 17½ crores, and cash and securities amounted to over Rs. 10 crores, thus coming to a total of Rs. 27 crores, as against the paid-up capital of Rs. 19 crores. Mind you this is after the dividends and other things have been paid. In 1950-51 alone, according to the published figures again, 62 jute companies made a net profit of over Rs. 8 crores. Of course, the huge undeclared but well-known profits earned through secret and questionable sources are not included in this. It is quite clear that the introduction of rationalisation in the jute industry which has more or less enjoyed continuous prosperity is motivated only by one thing, and that is, more profits, and still more profits. But please note how this has affected the workers. That will be the interesting part of it According to the figures given by the Indian Jute Mills Association, the number of permanent workers was as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| March 1952 | .. | 2,19,000 workers |
| May 1953 | .. | 2,07,000 ,, |
| April 1954 | .. | 1,98,000 ,, |
| May 1954 | .. | 1,19,000 ,, . |

Another interesting feature that will throw light on the nature of this rationalisation relates to accidents. Now, let us look into the statistics of accidents, which is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| March 1952 | .. | 552 accidents |
| May 1953 | .. | 735 ,, |
| April 1954 | .. | 793 ,, |
| May 1954 | .. | 850 ,, . |

Month by month, the number of accidents has gone on increasing, and it would appear that rationalisation and accidents go hand in hand. This is the picture of rationalisation in the jute industry. This House has to decide whether this fits in with our national interests.

Now, let us turn, for a moment, to the textile industry, the largest industry, occupying an important position even on a world-scale, an industry for which our people have fought with sweat and tears against the British. It employs nearly 7½ lakhs of workers. In this industry, rationalisation is being introduced or is proposed to be introduced in all the centres. Nobody will say that this is done in the interests of production, because only last year, we heard cries of over-production and glut, raised even in this House. Textiles is one of the few sectors where the targets laid down in the Five Year Plan have been exceeded. Its problem, therefore, was not one of fall in production, but of over-production. And in 1953, we saw the picture of total or partial closure of mills. At that time, our Government, of course, standing between the capitalists and the workers, did not remain quiet. They immediately responded to the complaints of the capitalists; concessions were freely granted, the export duty on cloth was reduced, the excise duty on medium and coarse cloth was raised, hitting the vast majority of the consumers. But to the Government that is a minor matter.

Neither the millowners nor the Government thought of the consumer then. Both now speak for rationalisation in the name of the ordinary consumer. The millowners do not want more profit, that is not at all the objective—read Mr. Somani's articles, read the highly scientific arti-

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'les they write. Profit is nowhere given as the consideration; their only effort is to produce cheaper cloth. Anyway, the problem before the textile industry, as made out, is not one of fall in production, but over-production. May I ask if the need of the hour is production, what about the closed mills? Are there not mills which remain closed? Yes, there are. The other day the hon. Minister said that mills were not exactly closed down. I do not know the meaning of 'exactly' there. Why not utilise the full installed capacity of the mills and introduce the three-shift system everywhere? That will be beneficial for all. Then there will be more production, more workers will be engaged and the purchasing capacity of the masses will be increased to that extent. Evidently rationalisation is not introduced in the interest of increased production.

They say that the objective is to reduce the price of cloth. They say that in America the cost of production is only so small, in England it is only so much, but here out of Re. 1, 8 annas go for the cost of cotton; it is not at all possible to reduce that, it is reactionary, it will also hit the peasant and it should not be done. Then the only thing is, hit at the worker, take something from him and then reduce the price of cloth. Thereby, they say, increased consumption at home will become possible and they will be able to compete successfully in foreign markets. Let us pause for a minute and see whether in spite of continuous efforts at rationalisation, there has been any reduction in the price of cloth. I am sure everybody will agree that rationalisation has been going on throughout for the last 25 years in some form or other, in some place or other. Gentlemen who rise here to speak for rationalisation must show me one instance of their being able to produce cheaper cloth for our people. Are our people properly dressed? Are our people placed on a satisfactory footing so far as clothing is concerned? Every time the industrialists get concessions, they get more profits but there is not more cloth but less available for our people. I challenge anyone—can it be proved otherwise?

Now, one must look at the price structure. There have been substantial concessions by Government and increase of workload, and huge profits were pocketed by our industrial magnates. Taking the 1939 price as 100, the index of cloth prices gives the following picture: In 1948, it was 359, in 1949, 366, in 1950, 354—a slight fall. In 1951, it was 400, in 1952 it was 401 and in 1953, 407. Remember, the crisis of over-production happened, as they say, in 1953 and concessions were given by the Government. But still prices did not go down. Examples are not wanting to show that in this country the cost structure and price structure are not proportionately related. I do not say that there is absolutely no relationship, but the relationship is not proportionate. For example, take the tea industry. The Finance Minister will bear witness to this; we allowed the food concessions to the workers to be taken away because some tea estates of Assam and Darjeeling were reported to be in a crisis. Upto 30 per cent. of the workers' wages were reduced. Still the result is that we are paying almost abnormal, frightfully high prices for tea. I do not know exactly what the fixed price is, but in the market the ordinary consumer is paying a price that is fantastic. So, what I wanted to impress on the House is that reduction in cost of production need not necessarily result in the reduction of price.

Why have rationalisation, if it is not for producing more, if it is not to give cheaper goods, if it is not to increase the over-all prosperity of the country? The reason is simple; in order to increase the already high profits earned by the big capitalists.

Let us now see how rationalisation is working in the various textile mills.

Take, for example, Kanpur, where the workers, in spite of political differences and conflicting organisational loyalties are united on a common platform, to oppose the onslaught of rationalisation. It is not a small thing; it cannot be done easily. The workers, just like any other class of people are divided into political parties; conflicting ideologies and there are conflicting organisations. But, in Kanpur, you find the glorious example of workers of every organisation, belonging to the communists or the Congress, every party, joined together on a single platform, to fight this monstrous atrocity being perpetrated against them. According to Shri Sampurnanand, 9,000 workers are to be thrown out immediately. Of course, 13,000 have already been thrown out during the last few years and 9,000 are to be thrown out now.

The present scheme in Kanpur is based on the report of a special officer sent by the State Government, to examine the plan given by IBCON the rationalisation specialists from America. This special officer was sent to Bombay for training under IBCON so that the scheme may be studied and reported upon. According to his recommendations, a worker has to mind three or four looms instead of two. He will be forced to mind 300 to 400 spindles instead of 175 to 200. Modernised machinery is not the main feature at all. The proposal is to work it out in seven out of ten mills. In three mills, they are already being implemented. The following figures will give an idea of the workers going to be retrenched. In the Atherton West Mills, the present strength is 416, the surplus according to Government will be 134 and according to IBCON 198. In the J. K. Cotton Mills, 400 is the present strength, and according to government the surplus is 100 and according to IBCON it is 200. In the Kanpur Cotton Mills, the present strength is 392, the surplus according to government is 140 and according to IBCON it is 196.

In the weaving department, in Atherton West the present strength is 898, the surplus according to government is 224 and according to IBCON it is 358. In the J. K. Cotton Mills, the strength is 896, the surplus according to government is 224 and according to IBCON it is 448. In the Kanpur Textiles the strength is 510, the surplus according to government is 93 and according to the specialists it is 126. This is the picture in Kanpur.

We will now go to Ahmedabad and look at conditions there. The proposal is for the introduction of automatic looms. Shri Ambalal Sarabhai, well-known to all of us, has set up an experimental automatic loomsshed with 224 looms to be manned by 29 hands instead of 244. The workload of these 29 men will be tremendously stepped up without increase in their earnings. The wage bill of the 215 retrenched workers will go straight into the pocket of the employer. In the Calico Mills of Ahmedabad, 1520 looms working at present are to be replaced by automatic looms. The looms shall ordinarily employ 1655 men per shift but will now require 200 workers.

1 P.M.

The introduction of automatic looms in the weaving departments will throw out 180,000 workers and it will increase the profit of the employers by Rs. 2,91,20,000. Shri Ambalal Sarabhai alone will net an additional profit of Rs. 22 lakhs per year. In all textile centres like Bombay, Ahmedabad, Coimbatore, Kanpur etc., the result of rationalisation is, and will be, wholesale retrenchment of workers. Time prevents me from going into any further details. According to the INTUC, the introduction of rationalisation in cotton textile industry will throw out more than 5 lakhs of workers—mind you, it is out of 7½ lakhs. So, the problem is quite clear. It is a danger of a vast magnitude to the vast masses of our poor toilers.

What is the motive behind this scheme? It is nothing but an avaricious

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hunt for profits at the cost of lakhs of workers; at the cost of the ordinary consumer. The textile magnates and their spokesmen who talk so much about the benefits of rationalisation, who complain of competition and need for markets, have, in fact, earned more profits in 1953, when they say there was a crisis than in 1952. Sir, here is a sample of some of the profits earned by some of the typical mills. The Kohinoor Mills in Bombay and Killick Nixon and Company declared a gross profit of Rs. 65.22 lakhs this year, which is three times that of last year. The Buckingham Mills of Binny and Company of Madras made a gross profit of Rs. 124.59 lakhs, which is more than six times that of last year—last year the profit was Rs. 20.73 lakhs. The Calico Mills.....

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member can be allowed only two minutes more. The hon. Member knows that three hours have been assigned for discussion on this Resolution and I think half an hour will be sufficient for the Mover; otherwise other hon. Members will not have sufficient time to speak.

**Shri Punnoose:** In any case, Sir, I was labouring under a misunderstanding because at the time this question was discussed in the Committee I had said that I should get 45 minutes and I was under the impression that this time was there for me.

**Mr. Chairman:** So far as the entire time is concerned, it is only three hours for the entire Resolution and there are about six or seven amendments to it. Ordinarily, half an hour is assigned to the Mover of the Resolution. At the same time the hon. Member shall have the right of replying at the end. That would make up for his 45 minutes.

**Shri Punnoose:** I will even give up my right of reply; after all if I do not put through any case what is the use of a reply? Within 5, 6 or 10 minutes I will finish.

**Mr. Chairman:** That is alright, if the hon. Member is willing to give up his right of reply.

**Shri Punnoose:** Sir, I was telling about the profits earned by some of the mills. The Calico Mills of Ahmedabad earned Rs. 71.98 lakhs this year compared to Rs. 45.67 lakhs last year. The Madura Mills of Harvey and Company have made Rs. 102·13 lakhs this year compared to Rs. 90.48 lakhs last year.

Now, let us come to the attitude of the Government with regard to this. Statements have appeared from Government spokesmen from time to time purporting to protect the interests of the workers, prevent unemployment etc. For example, in February last, the Deputy Minister of Labour, Shri Abid Ali, told pressmen in Calcutta that Government would not allow any rationalisation or mechanisation which would result in retrenchment. He said the Planning Commission had formulated schemes in this respect and there was no idea of improvement which would result in the retrenchment of even a single worker. But, the Labour Minister of Uttar Pradesh, speaking to pressmen in Lucknow said that "there was nothing like a Government rationalisation scheme". He said that the employers had prepared a scheme and the Government's efforts were to see that a formula agreeable to both labour and employers should be worked out. So, he takes it for granted that rationalisation is bound to come into effect whether the worker is going to be thrown out or not, and he says that the possibility of a settlement between the workers and the management should be explored. Somewhat similar is the attitude of our own Minister here, who said the other day "If you want rationalisation, have it immediately because we have got some money at present, we are going to have industrial corporations, we are going to give some money to the private sector." So,

there is only some difference in words, but the stark reality is that these differences in words are only superficial. They are intended to sugar-coat the bitter pill. The fact is that Government are actively and concretely aiding the industrialists to put through their schemes. This is a very serious statement to make, but I make it, knowing the full responsibility, because had it not been for the aid of the Government, this gross injustice would not be allowed to be worked out. The moment workers who are thrown out, get together, in their trade unions and make their protests, in the name of law and order, they are prevented from pursuing their efforts and their families are doomed to poverty. That sort of thing has been going on all these years and today it has come to a very critical point. I can show you tens of examples where Government have behaved in a way that the retrenched workers were not allowed to come in and the workers, whose workload was increased, were not allowed to fight for their rights. This Government, which claims to be a welfare government, will respond immediately to the complaint of the big industrialists or capitalists. You will remember that we in this House demanded Rs. 50 crores for relief to the unemployed, but it was turned down. When it is a matter of industrialists' complaint, all sorts of concessions are given, export duties are reduced, excise duties raised, super-tax abolished and so forth but when a demand is made by the peasants, by the vast majority of the people, our Government has no money. The Commerce Minister has himself indicated in this House the other day that they are thinking in terms of giving financial aid to rationalise the industries. Sir, they are laughing; they must read the writing on the wall. This scheme should not be allowed to be implemented and it will not be allowed to pass. I want to state it here because it is a matter of life and death for the workers. Our Ministers hold out hopes to the workers. Let me be brutally frank. We do not attach the slightest importance or slightest weight to the promises of safeguarding and protecting the interests of labour given by the Government spokesmen from time to time. The past has taught us lessons; the past has disillusioned us. I will ask: what has happened to the 25,000 Jute workers in Bengal? What has happened to over 15,000 textile workers in Kanpur, and about 40,000 in Bombay, over 2,500 workers in one single mill, the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills alone, over 3,000 in Madura Harvey Mill and a large number in Coimbatore and other textile centres who have been retrenched during the last two or three years? Have they been absorbed in the same industry or has alternative employment been found for them? Have the Government lifted a little finger to see that a little relief is provided to these unfortunate workers? Our Government has still the guts to feel that the workers will believe them; they claim to be their protectors! What is the fate of the handloom workers? More rationalisation in textile industries means greater disaster to the handloom industry.

**Shri A. M. Thomas** (Ernakulam): If there is no price reduction, according to you, how will the handloom industry be affected?

**Shri Punnoose:** Mr. Thomas, of all persons, knows that handloom cannot even now under-sell and compete with mill products. Finer qualities of cloth, when made on a larger scale, gult the market. They drive away the handloom cloth. The Government by introducing the menacing scheme, is out to virtually annihilate our handloom industry. Government are considering the proposition of giving financial aid to the industrial magnates. They say it is to modernise. It is a very serious question that the Government have to consider. Whenever some suggestion is made for nationalization—I do not say that nationalization should be had immediately—the Prime Minister asks:

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"Why should we purchase this outmoded machinery?" I would ask another question: "Why purchase machinery to manufacture consumer goods from Britain and America and other countries?" Certain industries are already well-established in this country. My opinion is that not a single pie should be spent over purchasing machinery for the production of consumer goods. Spare every pie that is possible and utilise it for the installation of our basic industries, so that we may have our own machinery made in this country. That means additional employment and greater prosperity for our people. The way in which we are going today will not industrialise this country. We will be creating more unemployment.

It will be surprising—and it is most interesting to note—that our industrial magnates want to compete with, and defeat, countries like the U.S.A. and Britain in foreign markets. I congratulate them on their ambition, but they forget that Britain and America owe their present position not to their own hard work but to the colonial robbery that they conducted for generations. Is it the dream of our industrial magnates that some empire will fall to us like an apple? Our industrial planning should be on the basis of an internal market which is one of the most potential markets of the world. Is it the internal market that we are looking for? No. Our industrial magnates, our textile chiefs, when they go to sleep, think about the markets in Malaya, in Burma and markets overseas, but not of the one in this country. If our people are properly dressed, that alone will be the stable basis for the industries. So, all our attention should be devoted, firstly and mainly, to the development of our home market. What is to be done for that? There is a way, and I should like to suggest it. Is this Government prepared to say that the textile or the jute industry should have so much of profit and no more? Will they say that the industry shall have profits, so far and no more? No. If they get 105 per cent., they say, all right. 205 per cent.—very well; 500 per cent.—that means God is more kind! As long as that sort of thing continues industrialisation and raising the capacity of the masses to purchase will not happen. It will not be possible in this country. So, the only way out is to check these higher profits: the conclusion is obvious. It is most surprising that the Government tells the workers and the peasants, "Make sacrifice, make sacrifice." It must be remembered that the interests of the workers and the interests of the country are one and the same. They are not in conflict. But if there are gentlemen who believe that the interests of the nation and the interests of the country are at loggerheads, take it from me that those interests of the country shall not prosper. We shall fight it out tooth and nail. Today we get from all over the country reports of huge struggles going on and in the making. Let me tell the Government and also those who dream of rationalisation in the name of the millions workers' families of our country, that rationalisation shall not be allowed. Look at this picture of the workers struggling against it. About 8,000 workers in Ujjain who went on a strike for 17 days in March, 1951; they succeeded. Take again the dock-workers' strike on 8th March, 1953 in Bombay City. Remember the strikes at Poona, at Bhopal, in Coimbatore, in Ahmedabad, in Kanpur and so on and so forth. Everywhere you find the workers mobilising themselves for the right to live. The only question is whether the Government take serious note of these things. We do not believe they are doing it. We do not believe that you will be roused except when it becomes impossible for you to sleep. That is our experience.

**Mr. Chairman:** Resolution moved:

"This House is of opinion that rationalisation schemes planned to

be introduced in the textile and jute industries in the various centres in India are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country."

I have got notices of eight motions. One motion by Shri Asoka Mehta is covered by another motion by Shri Bagawat. There is little difference between them, I would ask hon. Members who have given notice of these amendments to move them.

**Shri S. N. Das** (Darbhanga Central): I beg to move:

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that introduction of rationalisation schemes should be so planned and regulated by Government as not to upset violently the employment position in these industries and those of the workers who will be thrown out of jobs as a result of such rationalisation should be immediately provided with alternative employment."

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** (Purnea *cum* Santal Parganas): I beg to move:

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"The House is of opinion that rationalisation of the Textile and Jute industries where it is necessary in the country's interest must be encouraged, but the implementation of such schemes should be so regulated as to cause the least amount of displacement of labour in these industries, providing reasonable safeguards for the employment of such displaced labour."

**Shri Asoka Mehta** (Bhandara): I beg to move:

That in the Resolution for the words "are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country" the words "should be so regulated by the Government as to safeguard the legitimate interests of the employees in these industries and the consumers of the goods produced by them" be substituted.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** (Hoshiarpur): I beg to move:

That in the Resolution for the words "are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country" the words "should be first scrutinized by a Committee consisting of the representatives of industries, the Government and the labour with a view to see that the interests of workers and the consumers do not suffer in any way and that these schemes are introduced accordingly to a well-considered time table" be substituted.

**Mr. Chairman:** Amendments moved:

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that introduction of rationalisation schemes should be so planned and regulated by Government as not to upset violently the employment position in these industries and those of the workers who will be thrown out of jobs as a result of such rationalisation should be immediately provided with alternative employment."

That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"The House is of opinion that rationalisation of the Textile and Jute industries where it is necessary in the country's interest must be encouraged, but the implementation of such schemes should be so regulated as to cause the least amount of displacement of labour in these industries, providing reasonable safeguards for the employment of such displaced labour."

That in the Resolution for the words "are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country" the words "should be so regulated by the Government as to safeguard the legitimate interests of the employees in these industries and the consumers of the goods produced by them" be substituted.

[Mr. Chairman]

That in the Resolution for the words "are harmful to the vital interests of the people of this country" the words "should be first scrutinized by a Committee consisting of the representatives of industries, the Government and the labour with a view to see that the interests of workers and the consumers do not suffer in any way and that these schemes are introduced accordingly to a well-considered time table" by substituted.

The Resolution and the amendments are before the House for discussion.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Monday, the 30th August, 1954.*